

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT Thomas Black

FILE NO. 65-59181

SECTION NO. 4

SERIALS 86

thru

126

NOTICE

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File No: 65-57181Re: Thomas BlackDate: 2/78
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
86	6/27/50	PH letter to HQ	1	1	
87	6/23/50	BA letter to HQ	2	2	
87	7/24/50	HQ letter to NY	1	1	
88	7/12/50	Memo to file	2	2	
89	7/13/50	AAG letter to HQ	1	0	Refer to Another Agency
90	6/14/50	Memo to file	1	1	
91	6/14/50	Memo to file	1	1	
92	7/6/50	WFO TT to HQ PH NY	1	1	b1
93	7/18/50	NK letter to HQ attached	2/5	7	
94	7/13/50	NY TT to HQ PH	1	1	
95	7/14/50	BS Report to HQ	7	7	
96	6/29/50	Letter from another agency ^{attached}	1/2	0	Refer to Another Agency

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas BlackDate: 2/28
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
96	7/17/50	HQ letter to PH	1	0	Refer to another agency
97	7/19/50	PH TT to HQ	1	1	
98	7/19/50	HQ TT to PH	1	1	
99	6/3/50	PH TT to HQ, NY, NK	1	1	
100	6/5/50	PH TT to HQ, NK, NY	3	3	
101	7/13/50	PH letter to HQ	1	1	
101	7/11/50	HQ letter to NH	1	1	
102	6/14/50	PH TT to HQ, NK, NY	3	3	
103	6/13/50	PH TT to HQ, NY, NK	2	2	
104	6/13/50	PH TT to HQ, NK, NY	2	2	
105	6/13/50	NK TT to HQ, PH, NY	1	1	
106	7/12/50	PH TT to HQ, NK	1	1	

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas BlackDate: 2/58
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
107	7/11/50	PH TT to HQ NK	1	1	
108	6/15/50	PH TT to HQ	4	4	
109	6/14/50	NK TT to HQ, NY, PH	1	1	
110	6/14/50	PH TT to HQ, NY, NK	5	5	
111	6/15/50	NY TT to HQ, NK, PH	2	2	
112	6/14/50	PH TT to HQ, NY NK, BA with attachment	10	20	
113	6/14/50	NY TT to HQ, PH, NK	2	2	
114	6/14/50	NK TT to HQ, NY, PH	1	1	
115	6/14/50	241/9-14-77 NK TT to HQ, WFO, PH, NY, AT	1	1	
116	6/14/50	NK TT to HQ, PH	2	2	
117	6/17/50	Memo to file	1	1	
118	6/17/50	NK TT to HQ, NY, PH	1	1	

VOLUME

4

HEADQUARTERS FILES

REVIEWED BY

mab/mab

File No: 65-59181

Re: Thomas Black

Date:

2/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
119	4/17/50	PH TT to HQ NY, NK, BA	5	5	
120	4/17/50	NY TT to HQ, PH, NK	2	2	
121	4/17/50	NY TT to HQ, PH, NK	2	2	
122	4/17/50	NY TT to HQ, PH, NK	3	3	
123	4/17/50	NY TT to HQ, PH	2	2	
124	4/17/50	AT TT to HQ, WFO, PH, NY, NK	1	1	
125	4/17/50	AL TT to HQ, WFO, NK, NY PH	2	2	
126	4/17/50	with attachmt NK MM TT to HQ, WFO, PH, NY	2 1/2	4	

U.S. Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE APPROVED THIS FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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MAY 22 1977 BY R-373

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F O I P A
FEB 11 1978 BY 346

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

SECTION 4
SERIAL 386-126

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI Attn: FBI Laboratory

DATE: June 27, 1950

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was
ESPIONAGE - R

On June 26, 1950, during the interview with the subject, he produced twelve pages of 5" x 8" paper bearing pencil notes. These were made by the subject at his home and were matters that he desired to discuss with the Agents during the interview. It is believed that these notes will be a good specimen of his handwriting and it is not felt that they will be altered in any way.

Also, the subject produced a sheet of paper bearing type-writing, dated May 29, 1942, dealing with thermoil granodine. BLACK stated that this paper was typed on his typewriter. BLACK still retains this typewriter; however, the print today is different in that he had a new keyboard, placed on the typewriter several years ago. This is being submitted as a specimen of subject's typewriter as of 1942.

It is suggested that the Bureau check both specimens through the National Security file. In addition, the FBI Laboratory should examine the typewritten paper to determine if the chemical formula mentioned thereon is an industrial chemical formula.

At the conclusion of the examination, both specimens should be returned to the Philadelphia Office.

sent

WEN:ERG
65-4332
Enclosure
REGISTERED MAIL - RRR

RECORDED - 71

JUN 28 1950

JUN 28 1950

JUN 28 1950

65-5981-86

gl
WEN:ERG
65-4332

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

118604

TO : Director, FBI ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY DATE: 6/23/50

FROM : SAC, Baltimore

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

THIS IS EVIDENCE

Re Philadelphia teletype to the Bureau and other offices dated 6/16/50, which reflects that the subject named as one of his contacts an employee of the Hercules Powder Company, whose first name he believed to be WILLIAM, last name unknown.

Investigation at the Hercules Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware, disclosed that this individual was WILLIAM W. STAPLER, now deceased.

Philadelphia subsequently advised that a photograph of STAPLER was shown to BLACK, and he identified STAPLER as his contact at Hercules Powder Company.

The records of the Hercules Powder Company revealed that STAPLER died at Riverdale, New Jersey, on August 15, 1947.

There is being forwarded herewith to the Bureau one pack of exposed film containing photographs of WILLIAM W. STAPLER, as well as photographs of handwriting and handprinting, apparently that of STAPLER.

It is requested that the Laboratory develop the enclosed film so that it may retain the photographic copies of the handwriting and handprinting specimens which are believed to be those of STAPLER.

This material is being furnished to the Bureau as evidence inasmuch as it may be necessary to use the photographic copies of the handwriting as evidence in the future. The Bureau is also being furnished this material in the event that it is needed for handwriting comparison with any other documentary evidence that may be discovered in the investigation of this case.

JCT:mhp
65-1751

Enclosure - REGISTERED MAIL

cc New York
Philadelphia
Newark

RECORDED - 71

INDEXED - 71

65-57181-87

cel

7-ans

RE: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
6/23/50

In regard to the photographs of STAPLER, it is requested that two prints of the best negative of each photograph be forwarded to each of the following offices:

New York
Philadelphia
Newark
Baltimore.

It is also requested that the negatives be returned to the Baltimore Office.

65-59181-87

SAC, NEW YORK

July 24, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

Re New York teletype July 13, 1950, captioned "Ferdinand P. Heller, Espionage - R," and Philadelphia teletype dated July 19, 1950, in instant case.

There is attached hereto a photograph of William W. Stapler. The Agent from the New York City Division who is scheduled to interview Armand Lebis Feldman in Canada in the near future should exhibit the photograph of Stapler to Feldman to determine if Stapler is identical with the unidentified chemist who previously worked for Gaik Ovakimian, and mentioned by Feldman in previous interviews.

Enclosure

cc: Philadelphia (Enclosure) (65-1751)

RECORDED - 117

65-59181 - 87

cc: 61-7574 (Feldman)

EFL:hc

JUL 24 1950

1 AUG 3 1950

65-59181-87

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-7574-1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R.

DATE: July 12, 1950

Tolson ☒

Ladd ☒

Clegg ☒

Glavin ☒

Harbo ☒

Rosen ☒

Tracy ☒

Laughlin ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Nease ☒

Gandy ☒

At Noon on July 12, 1950, ASAC Hinze, of Philadelphia, called with reference to Philadelphia letter dated June 30, 1950, advising of the hysterical condition and subsequent automobile accident of Dr. Joseph Skilton, who was a dentist in Philadelphia who was interviewed by Philadelphia Agents in connection with this case. You will recall that in so far as we know, Skilton was not involved in the case but was interviewed in connection with his knowledge of Black. Philadelphia has not contacted Dr. Skilton since his accident. Mr. Hinze advised that last night during the interview with Black, Black stated that Dr. Skilton had committed suicide by using a knife on his stomach on July 8, and his funeral was held yesterday. Black stated that Dr. Skilton could be considered a dope addict, as he had the habit of giving himself jags on laughing gas. Philadelphia is not contacting the coroner for verification of this, nor are they going to contact Dr. Skilton's wife. Mr. Hinze thought the Bureau should know of this, inasmuch as Agents had interviewed Dr. Skilton; however, there is no reason to believe that the suicide was the result of any action taken by the FBI. A letter is being sent in by the Philadelphia Office giving details.

Hinze stated that Black informed the Agents that he had been in telephonic contact with Ferdinand Heller, who also has been interviewed by Agents of the Philadelphia Office in connection with this case. Heller and Black were friendly in the past, although Heller has refused to see Black recently. The interviews with Heller have reflected that he was involved in industrial espionage in the 1930s, but no case has been built up on him in so far as wartime espionage is concerned. Heller has a record of mental instability. Black advised the Agents last night that he had talked to Heller on the telephone; that Heller is fighting with his mother and drinking heavily; and that Heller said he was going to the country for a couple of weeks, and if his nerves did not clear up, he was going to follow the same course as Dr. Skilton. Black stated he is going to try to see Heller tonight. Agents of the Philadelphia Office have not interviewed Heller recently and do not contemplate interviewing him again, at least at this time. Mr. Hinze is sending a letter to the Bureau, setting forth further details.

Mr. Hinze stated that the Philadelphia and Newark Offices both feel that the full surveillance on Black should be reduced to a spot surveillance, and in the event Black does contact Heller, no surveillance should be conducted in view of Heller's mental state. I told him not to conduct a surveillance of Heller and to send us a teletype setting forth the reasoning of the Philadelphia Office on reducing the surveillance of Black to a spot surveillance; that if the reasoning were sound, the Bureau would go along with him.

RECORDED - 89

JUL 17 1950

AHB:tlc

51 AUG 3 1950

65-5981-88

31

SERVICE UNIT

4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Lumber RoomSubj: Dr. Joseph Skilton

☐ Exact Spelling
☒ All References
☐ Subversive Ref.
☐ Main File
☐ Restricted to Locality of

Searchers

Initial peDate 7-12-50FILE NUMBERSERIALS

al.
J.
MR.
one
NO 57771 N.O.
NO 57771 176 N.I.

Initialed

65-59781-88

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *Yed*

FROM : MR. A. H. BEIMONT *E*

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

Tolson ☒

Ladd ☒

Clegg ☒

Glavin ☒

Nichols ☒

Tracy ☒

Harbo ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Ingram ☒

Gandy ☒

At 2:40 P.M. June 16, ASAC Kaack of the Newark Office called relative to the search being conducted by the Newark Office of the effects of Thomas L. Black under waivers of search given by Black.

Mr. Kaack advised that at the Spruce Chemical Company in Patterson there are ten cartons of effects belonging to Black. Agents are going through them. Mr. Jacob Fast, sole owner of the Spruce Chemical Company is present and is cooperative.

An additional search is being conducted of property of Black at the Van Poznak Storage Warehouse, 92 Howard Street, Newark. This consists of 127 cartons and two tool chests in storage. It is made up of two loads, one received at the warehouse in 1944 and the other in 1947. Mr. Kaack advised that in the written waiver of search Black had authorized only two Agents by name to conduct the search. He wanted to know whether additional Agents could assist in the search under the waiver. I advised him that the legality of the waiver of search was doubtful anyway but in order to make it as effective as possible, he should call the Philadelphia Office and get the Agents who are interviewing Black to have him authorize as many Agents as are necessary to make an immediate and complete search of these effects. Mr. Kaack said he would do this at once.

It was pointed out to Mr. Kaack that Black is not cooperating and as a result it is essential that all possible leads be covered immediately. He was cautioned to make the search as thorough as possible to pick up any information which might be of assistance in corroborating the espionage activities of Black.

Mr. Kaack advised that the Storage Warehouse is fully cooperative as the Manager has been an informant of the Office in the past. However, there will be a re-sealing charge of \$2.00 per hour to re-seal the cartons after the search. I advised Mr. Kaack the Bureau authorized this payment.

AHB:BOB

RECORDED - 56

EX-1

65-59181-96

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM : MR. C. E. HERNER

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 16, 1950

SAC Cornelius called at 12:20 P.M. He advised that they have continued the interview with Black but that he is giving no substantial additional information; that he is still talking and still answering questions; that he is rather definite about certain things that happened in the 1930's but in so far as events that occurred in the 1940's are concerned, he shies away from questions and is indefinite. He pointed out that Black states that he was offered a microscope, which he declined. He was offered a movie camera which he declined. The Soviets wanted to send him to Cal Tech where he could go to school and handle contacts on the West Coast, but he refused. Black said that the Soviets gave him the Contax camera and let him keep it for several years. They then made him return it but later gave it back to him. He insists there was no basis for their returning it to him other than they just did. SA Holmes, who is handling the interview with Black, then talked to me and said that they had tried to further develop the penicillin angle; that Black insists he got all the information which he gave to the Russians from published material. He said he did give the Russians some industrial information which he got at the National Oil Products Company involving industrial processes and he gave it to them just to keep them quiet. He resists all suggestions that what he is saying is not reasonable.

SAC Cornelius then recommended that Ferdinand Heller be interviewed. I conferred with Mr. Ladd and authorized SAC Cornelius to go ahead with the interview of Heller. I told him to keep the Bureau informed regarding developments in this connection.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

CEH:mar

RECORDED - 56

EX-3

65-59181-91
JUN 16 1950

FBI AUG 3 1950

HP 61
15-5516

SECRET

WASHINGTON, PHILA AND NEW YORK FROM WASH FIELD
DIRECTOR AND SACS, PHILA AND NY

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP - R.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Class
DATE 2-12-79 CHS

ROUTED

Classified by 4913
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

15th APR 1979 21678

SECRET

RECORDED
INDEXED

165-57181-92

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, NEWARK
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 7/18/50

Re Philadelphia teletype dated 7/15/50 and Newark teletype dated 7/17/50.

There is enclosed herewith for the Bureau, New York, and Philadelphia a copy of a signed statement prepared on July 17, 1950, by JACOB I. PASS at the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey.

During interview by SA'S JOHN R. LYONS and LOUIS G. TURNER, JACOB PASS remarked that he had seen BLACK on July 16, 1950. PASS personally typed out his statement with a minimum of coaching from interviewing agents. He displayed an extremely confident attitude, and it was evident that he had given prior thought and preparation to his remarks.

In addition to the remarks included in his signed statement, PASS also provided the following information concerning himself:

He stated that on one occasion he attended a meeting of the American League for Peace and Democracy but denies ever being a member of the Communist Party. He admitted being tolerant toward the CP but stated that he has changed his mind in view of recent activities of the CP and the Soviet Union. PASS classified CP members as "a species of nut" and remarked that today they are all psychological problems.

He pointed out that his cousin, SARA HERSHER BROWN, was at least a CP sympathizer and probably a CP member who has been expelled from CP activity as a result of jealousies resulting from her popularity in Negro groups. In this connection, PASS stated that SARA married RAYMOND, a Negro who has traveled to Australia to make speeches with the Red Dean of Canterbury.

PASS remarked that another cousin, DELL (ph. GRAPAM), is also married to a Negro and is probably a CP member.

RECORDED - 71

CC - New York (Enc. 1)
Philadelphia (Enc. 1)

LGT:AM
65-4074

COPIES DESTROYED

71 AUG 7 1950 R 47 NOV 21 1960

1 cc of statement to
1st Vice President

la

165-57181-93
JUL 19 1950

Handwritten signature

ME 65-4074

Letter to Director, FBI

7/18/50

It is to be noted that FASS was definite in his statement that BLACK ceased contact with the Soviet at the time he broke with the CP in approximately 1933. He excused BLACK's Soviet activity on grounds that it took place in the distant past, and although it may have helped Russia industrially, according to FASS, there was no subversion involved.

65-59181-93

Paterson, New Jersey

July 17, 1950

I, Jacob I. Pass, make the following voluntary statement to John R. Lyons and Louis G. Turner, who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. No threats or promises have been made to me for this statement and I know it can be used in a court of law. I have been advised of my right to counsel.

I reside at 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and my place of business is at the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey.

I made the acquaintance of Thomas L. Black when we were both employed at the National Oil Products Co. in Harrison, N.J. in 1938. I became better acquainted with him in about 1940-41, and between then and 1944 he confided in me that he had once been engaged in collecting technical information for the Soviet Union. This conversation concerning his activities took place in his apartment at 17 Oxford St., Newark, N.J. My impression was that he confided in me for two reasons. First of all, he felt the need to confide his secret to some one, and he considered me a very close friend. Then, in the course of telling me his story he revealed to me that he was in deathly fear that the OGPU would eventually try to liquidate him, and he asked me, if anything should ever happen to him, to inform an editor of Time Magazine. He pointed to the name in a copy of the magazine, and I did not remember it very clearly, except that the first name was unusual. When the Hiss case broke I realized that Whittaker Chambers was probably the man Black had referred to. He was quite dramatic about these revelations, and told me that he was the only man in the United States to have been awarded the Order of Lenin, though the medal was not delivered to him. It was a fantastic story, and he seemed to think that he had been important, while I felt that his estimate of his role was exaggerated.

As I understood it, his work consisted of gathering technical information from chemists and engineers employed in various commercial companies. Some of it he paid for, others furnished the information free, I suppose. In the course of the conversations we had on this subject I recall only the following incidents being mentioned. In the course of research on penicillin, we came across the name of E. W. Florsdorf, and Tom told me that he knew him: that he had purchased a drying process from him

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on behalf of the Soviet Government. He mentioned a communist sympathizer at Calco, and I concluded myself that that person might have been another one of his contacts. He told me vaguely about the apparatus involved. I gathered that Chambers was one of his contacts, perhaps his superior. He said that there was a man on the top floor of the C.P. headquarters in N.Y. who directed the Soviet espionage in the U.S. His name was Brown or some such common name, and though the actual personage changed from time to time, the name remained the same. He also said that all Amtorg and other Soviet officials were engaged in espionage. Whether he knew this from personal contact with all of them or by extrapolation, and information gathered through subsequent contacts in the Trotskyite movement, I cannot say.

He had told me previously that he had left the C.P. in 1933 when they had failed to prevent the rise of Hitler. When he decided to cease his activities for the Soviet Union he realized what the consequences might be. In fact, he told me that when he refused to continue about 2 agents tried to forcibly remove him from the country, and drove him to the Canadian border, in Michigan, if I remember correctly. He escaped by telling them that they could not get away with it: that he would tell the border guards that he was being forcibly taken, and to his surprise the agents could not think of a stratagem to stop him from doing this and so released him. Thereafter he had lived in constant fear of his life. Now, as this had all transpired a considerable time ago, I was inclined to minimize his experience, and told him that at this late date it was unreasonable for him to continue fearing the OGPU. He quoted to me the fates of other deserters from the Soviet camp, as Krivitsky, and others, who died under mysterious circumstances. I told him that he had not been bothered since, and that he was probably too unimportant for them to worry about now, especially since they were now better recognized, and had to be more careful. It was my view that he had been less important than he had thought, and that if, with his known Trotskyite background since then, he had not been molested, he was probably past danger. Nevertheless, he continued to worry. One day, when I was at his apartment, he got a phone call from some party, and when he hung up he said that it was some one he had known in the past, and that he feared that this person was a representative of the OGPU who wanted to see him again. My impression was that it was a person whom he had known as a communist, though he was not certain that this man was actually involved in espionage activity. I told him to forget about the call, and as far as I know there was no further development along this line.

At the time I met Tom Black he was a member of the Socialist Workers Party, and had been, as I understood it, since 1933. He remained a member until at least some time before he moved to Philadelphia. To the best of my knowledge, in all of his time in Philadelphia he was no longer active politically, but was a disillusioned former radical. In many conversations between us he explained to me why he had quit the C.P. and what was wrong with their policies. He left in 1933 because he felt

65-59181-93

that they should have been able to prevent the rise of the Nazis, considering their great strength in Germany at the time. His feelings were that the mission of the C.P. was to sabotage any real growth of communism or socialism. The views he expressed to me were those that any socialist or Trotskyite might have given regarding the role of the C.P. : their use of labor unions, front organizations and other groups merely as instruments of Soviet policy, and not for any sincere purposes of improving the lot of the workers or people. While working at his apartment I came across some Kodachrome slides of Trotsky, and he revealed to me that they were pictures that he had taken when he had visited Mexico. I gathered that they were shown at meetings of the S.W.P., and that Tom was an important member of the group, if for no other reason than that there were so few of them. He told me of his trip to Mexico - by plane, I believe - and his visit with Trotsky. One night, in the presence of Charles Freefield, he showed me the pictures of Trotsky with a slide projector, along with other pictures. Most of them showed Trotsky tending his pet rabbits. On one occasion he took me on an outing of the SWP to Lake Hopatcong. It was a small group, and every one seemed to know Tom very well. He was called Tom. For all I knew most of the others were using aliases. Among the group was Betty Morrow, the wife of Felix, who was in jail at the time as a result of the Minneapolis trial. After the swimming there was a brief seminar, at which a man named George (I forget his full name) gave a talk which was on theoretical economics. There was almost no discussion. It was obvious that Tom was on good terms with all of the members present.

On one occasion Tom gave me a book, written by one of the S.W.P. leaders, giving a history of the Spanish Civil War. He said it would explain how the communists sabotaged the loyalists. The details of this were too complicated for me to follow. It was clear to me, though, that he was a thoroughly sincere Trotskyite, and a severe opponent of the Communists. He always maintained that he was a communist with a small "c".

I knew that Harry Gold was a good friend of Tom's. On about 3 occasions I met Gold, and he seemed an affable fellow, who talked almost exclusively of chemistry. As far as I knew, and as far as Tom knew, Gold had no political interests whatsoever.

When the news of Harry Gold's arrest was published Tom told me how shocked he was. He could not understand it, for he had known Gold as a gentle fellow, and a loyal friend. He could not conceive of this man whom he had known as being guilty of the acts with which he was charged. Because he had known him so well, the shock was very deep.

65-59181-93

Several weeks after Gold's arrest, and after the F.B.I. had revealed in an interview that they knew about this, Tom told me that he had been told by Gold a few weeks before his arrest that Gold was the man being sought as the contact of Klaus Fuchs. (The time had been one night when he had gone to pick up a radio at the apartment of my cousin. He was home early, and so could not have spoken to Gold for more than a few minutes.) All I could say to him was "Now you tell me." It was too late to do anything now.

From my intimate knowledge of Tom Black I feel that he broke completely and unequivocally with the C.P. and the Soviet Union in 1933. He immediately joined the Trotskyite movement, so that he could not have continued working for them much beyond that year. Aside from nodding to former acquaintances from the C.P. who did not know of his break, he had no contact with members of the C.P. except accidentally or socially. In the course of numerous conversations he convinced me of the depth and sincerity of his anti-soviet feelings. I cannot imagine even the cleverest spy feigning a hatred for the C.P. in such complete detail and with such evident fervor. Since my own aversion to the Soviet system was strong, he was happy to reinforce it with detailed arguments drawn from his experience in the radical parties. In the years 1945 to now, when we were in Philadelphia, I knew almost every step he made, and where he was at almost every time of the day, and to the best of my knowledge he engaged in no political activity of any sort. His contacts with the Trotskyites were limited to personal gossip of former acquaintances. He had no contacts in Philadelphia. However, his hatred for Stalinism continued, and does to this day.

I never suggested that Black tell the authorities about his activities on behalf of the Soviet Government for the following reasons. First of all, no government documents were involved. He had only transmitted commercial secrets, which at best or worst could help Russia build her economy. Secondly, at the time he had helped them, Russia was a struggling backward country, and not considered a menace to this country. Only dedicated socialists and Trotskyites considered her a menace then. Finally, it had happened in the past, and the agents involved had probably long since been recalled, according to his own testimony. Further, he felt that Whittaker Chambers, who had been in a much more responsible position, could have told more than he, and it did not seem he could contribute anything of value.

As for the reason why Tom did not turn Gold in, he told me that he could not do it, because he considered Gold a friend. My view is that Tom, who is given to deep emotional feelings, had this

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strong feeling of friendship for Gold, and could not bring himself to realize that the admirable fellow he had known had another aspect to his personality. He could only remember the Gold he knew. Perhaps on further reflection he would have recognized the other aspect of the man, and taken action. But Gold was arrested before he could come to any decision.

I have personally typed the above statement, consisting of 5 pages, and it is true and correct.

Jacob I. Pass

Witness:

John R. Lyons Special Agent FBI - 7/17/50

Louis G. Turner, Special Agent, FBI - 7/17/50

65-59181-93

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 13 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH 18 AND PHILA

3 FROM NEW YORK

13 4-04P

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R. REREP SA J.C. TRAINOR, JULY SEVEN, NINETEEN FIFTY, BALTIMORE. BUREAU REQUESTED TO SEND PHOTOS OF WILLIAM H. STAPLER TO NY FOR EXHIBITION TO ARMAND LABIS FELDMAN, WITH WHOM AN INTERVIEW IS CONTEMPLATED IN NEAR FUTURE AT FELDMAN-S HOME IN CANADA. STAPLER CONSIDERED LIKELY SUSPECT FOR UNKNOWN CHEMIST DESCRIBED BY FELDMAN AND SET OUT IN BULET NOVEMBER TWENTY EIGHT, NINETEEN FORTY NINE, IN FELDMAN CASE. BUFILE SIX ONE-SEVEN FIVE SEVEN FOUR.

RECORDED - 71

SCHEIDT

BOTH HOLD PLS INDEXED - 71

51 JUL 31 1950

65-59181-94

cc: Wm. Tracy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At: PHILADELPHIA

File No. 65-3365

Report Made At: BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	Date: 7/14/50	Period: 6/21, 22/50	Report Made By: BRENTON S. GORDON	MTW
Title THOMAS L. BLACK, was.			Character of Case ESPIONAGE - R	

Synopsis of Facts:

PERCY HELIE, Worcester, Massachusetts and EMORY A. RICHARDS, Glendale, Rhode Island interviewed separately and furnished such personal history of subject as each possessed. Subject had admitted to both his acquaintanceship with HARRY GOLD and his alleged former membership in the Communist Party, USA.

- P -

DETAILS:

AT WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

PERCY HELIE, 53 Holden Street, Worcester, Massachusetts was interviewed by Special Agent CLARENCE R. GIARD and the writer at Worcester Resident Agency on June 22, 1950 at 11:00 a.m. Mr. HELIE gave the following account of his relationship with instant subject.

HELIE asserted that he first met the subject approximately five years ago at the offices of the C. W. BERG Laboratories, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. HELIE had then been employed by the latter company for ten years as a salesman and was introduced to the subject by Mr. C. W. BERG. The introduction was made by BERG in order to acquaint HELIE with a new process for synthetic soap which the subject was developing. In the next four years HELIE met BLACK on but two or three occasions.

Approved and Forwarded:	Special Agent in Charge	Do Not Write in These Spaces	
COPIES DESTROYED		6559181-75	RECORDED - 15
R 45 NOV 21 1960			INDEXED - 15
Copies of This Report		JUL 20 1960 SAC	EX-43
5 - Bureau		FIVE	
3 - Philadelphia		SAC, BOST.	
2 - Washington Field (Information)			
2 - New York (Information)			
2 - Newark (Information)			
3 - Boston			

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HELIE related that approximately one year ago Mr. C. W. BERG was stricken with an illness from which he was not expected to recover to that point where he could resume active management of the Berg Laboratories. C. W. BERG's prospective successor was his son-in-law ERIC BERG. ERIC BERG and C. W. BERG had personalities which frequently clashed and in addition most of the other employees of C. W. Berg Laboratories disliked Eric Berg.

In view of this background of employment management, the instant subject contacted HELIE with the suggestion that the two of them, that is BLACK and HELIE, join to promote a new and independent business which they would own jointly. HELIE stated that it had also been his ambition to operate his own business. His discussions with this end in view with BLACK began approximately a year ago and had continued on a very heavy basis up until mid June, 1950. HELIE stated that said discussions with BLACK occurred by telephone, by letter, by his visiting BLACK's home and BLACK's visiting his home at Worcester, Massachusetts.

In the course of these discussions BLACK and HELIE agreed in early January, 1950 that while they possessed the necessary research ability (in BLACK) and sales ability (in HELIE) to launch a new company, they lacked sufficient capital to build a manufacturing plant. Shortly thereafter BLACK came to HELIE's home in Worcester and advised him that he had secured the cooperation of one JACK FASS of Paterson, New Jersey. FASS, according to BLACK, owned the Spruce Chemical Company. FASS was building a new plant and agreed to enlarge it so that the activities of HELIE and BLACK could be conducted on the premises. FASS had also indicated, according to BLACK, that he wished to expand his own company's line, i.e. boiler compounds, and would advance capital for an interest in the HELIE-BLACK company. The original intention of BLACK and HELIE had been to manufacture synthetic soap, mercerizing assistants and a catalytic agent to be used with soap in the washing of woolens.

At about the latter point, January, 1950, C. W. BERG seemed to be recovering and HELIE asserts that it occurred to both him and BLACK that it would be unfair to found the new company in direct competition with their former employer. Accordingly, HELIE contacted EMORY RICHARDS of Glendale, Rhode Island with the suggestion that RICHARDS join BLACK and HELIE in launching the new company. It was moreover agreed that the new company would specialize in chemicals concerned with the manufacture of cottons, and thus avoid the major part of the competition with the Berg company which specialized in chemicals used in the manufacture of woolens. It was further decided to employ HARRY LODGE, a Berg company employee, whose resignation, which was not voluntary was pending with the Berg company, to handle the woolen sales aspects of the new firm. It was felt that LODGE

would be a former employee of the Berg company competing with BERG whether he was affiliated with BLACK and HELIE or with some other concern. In addition HELIE revealed that he was suffering from a coronary thrombosis condition and desired to avoid travel as much as possible. HELIE stated BLACK was not a particularly good businessman and it would be necessary for someone such as himself to maintain a close watch on the affairs of management in the new concern.

On the weekend of June 17-18, 1950 HELIE went to Philadelphia in company with RICHARDS to meet BLACK and JACK FASS for the purpose of formally setting up their new company described above under the registered name "Thorotex." The men did not plan to incorporate. RICHARDS and HELIE registered at the Alexander Hamilton Hotel in Philadelphia whereat on June 17, 1950 RICHARDS became ill.

The business transactions of the men did not occur with any of the speed which HELIE had contemplated because of RICHARDS's illness and BLACK's very apparent nervous condition. BLACK was ill at ease throughout the day and consumed, according to HELIE, a large number of aspirin tablets and glasses of Bromo-Seltzer.

On the evening of June 17, 1950 while at dinner in the Alexander Hamilton Hotel and with no one else present, BLACK advised HELIE that he had known HARRY GOLD for seventeen years. BLACK stated that as a result of this association he had been through an interrogation by FBI Agents at the Philadelphia Office. He stated that he had never had any business or other association with GOLD but he did not elaborate further.

HELIE stated that he then recalled that approximately six or eight months earlier, before Christmas, 1949, he had had a similar private dinner with BLACK at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On this occasion when the men were chatting about affairs not concerned with their business, BLACK had stated that in the late 1920's and early 1930's he was "quite liberal - as were all college graduates of those days." BLACK asserted that his father was a college professor and that his social acquaintances were all in the academic field. Continuing, HELIE alleges that BLACK at that time stated he had been a member of the Communist Party in the early 1930's. HELIE relates that he then said in as quick a manner as he could, that he was at that time and always had been a Republican. BLACK then quickly stated, "I know now that this is the greatest country in the world." The conversation with reference to political matters terminated at that point.

65-59181-95

HELIE stated that the foregoing statements represent an accurate summary of all his relations with BLACK; that as a result of them he had long ago come to the personal conclusion that BLACK is a sincere, idealistic, conscientious and hard working individual. HELIE was of the opinion that BLACK at this time has no association with the Communist movement. HELIE noted voluntarily that if BLACK were a Communist he would do anything that the Communist Party might ask him because he is that type of individual, i.e. exceedingly sincere.

Thereafter HELIE stated that prior to BLACK's having discovered JACK FASS as a potential member of the proposed new company, BLACK had proposed one PETO (phonetic) as a possible source of manufacturing equipment and space. HELIE never met said PETO. PETO was described by BLACK to be a paint manufacturer in Brooklyn who wished to branch out into some other field of business. HELIE reluctantly admitted that he vetoed BLACK's suggestion of PETO as a partner because of PETO's racial origin.

HELIE stated that BLACK made an admission of his interview by Bureau Agents at Philadelphia again in the presence of RICHARDS, FASS and himself.

AT GLENDALE, RHODE ISLAND

EMORY A. RICHARDS was interviewed at 11:05 a.m. on June 22, 1950 by Special Agents RICHARD J. GALLAGHER and EDWARD J. SHEILS.

RICHARDS asserted that he first met BLACK in late April or early May, 1950 at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City on a Saturday afternoon. The introduction was performed by PERCY HELIE, mentioned above. RICHARDS stated that he and the subject, together with HELIE, had spent the afternoon and most of the evening on Saturday in discussing the details of a company to be formed by them. RICHARDS asserted that he did not see the subject again until the afternoon of June 17, 1950 and then at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. RICHARDS repeated the information furnished by HELIE with reference to the plans of the men named to form a new chemical manufacturing and sales company. The following details represent only additional information gained from RICHARDS with reference to his business association with the subject.

BLACK had been employed by JACK FASS in the Spruce Chemical Company prior to his employment with the C. W. Berg Laboratories. It was RICHARDS's understanding that BLACK had been employed by BERG for approximately five years

BS 65-3365

and for approximately five years preceding the latter employment by the Spruce Chemical Company. Both JACK FASS and BLACK had worked at an earlier date for the National Oil Products Company in Harrison, New Jersey.

RICHARDS stated that on the afternoon of June 17, 1950 he was ill, as indicated by HELIE. He does recall, however, that BLACK was extremely nervous and finally told the group that he knew and had associated with HARRY GOLD. BLACK further stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party, a mistake he had made in earlier life and which he regretted. RICHARDS also stated that BLACK gave the impression that he had been connected with HARRY GOLD when both were members of the Communist Party.

Both RICHARDS and HELIE indicated that they did not intend to pursue their business association with BLACK until such time that it is apparent to each of them that BLACK is not involved in any of the illegal activities engaged in by GOLD.

- P E N D I N G -

65-59181-95

BS 65-3365

LEADS

THE BOSTON OFFICE:

At Cambridge, Massachusetts

Will endeavor to identify "NICHOLS"
mentioned in Philadelphia teletype
dated July 5, 1950

REFERENCE:

Philadelphia teletypes to Boston dated
June 18 and July 5, 1950

65-59181-95

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At: PHILADELPHIA

File No. 65-3365

Report Made At: BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	Date: 7/14/50	Period: 6/21, 22/50	Report Made By: BRENTON S. GORDON	MTW
Title THOMAS L. BLACK, was.			Character of Case ESPIONAGE - R	

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- P -

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Approved and Forwarded:	Special Agent in Charge	Do Not Write in These Spaces	
		65-59181-195	
Copies of This Report			
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2 - New York (Information)			
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3 - Boston			

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 19 1950
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease

WASHINGTON 22 FROM PHILA 7-19-50. 11-15 PM
DIRECTOR DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R.

RE MIAMI TEL JULY EIGHTEEN REFLECTING INTERVIEW WITH CHARLES M. FREEFIELD
FOR INFO MIAMI OFFICE CHARLES M. FREEFIELD WAS A MEMBER OF THE SOCIALIST
WORKERS PARTY BETWEEN NINETEEN THIRTYEIGHT AND NINETEEN FORTYTWO WHEN
HE ENTERED THE ARMY. HE HAD PARTY NAMES OF QUOTE JOHN L. UNQUOTE AND
QUOTE A. JONEL UNQUOTE. AMONG SUBJECT-S EFFECTS WERE FOUND BOOKS ON
MARXISM BEARING THE NAME A. JONEL WHICH HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING
THE PROPERTY OF FREEFIELD. MIAMI OFFICE SHOULD SUBMIT A REPORT ON
INFO FURNISHED BY FREEFIELD.

COPIES DESTROYED
R 47 NOV 21 1960
CORNELIUS

MIAMI ADVISED

END

ACK AND DISC PKSXXX PLS

PH R 22 WA DFC

RECORDED - 62 165-59181-97
INDEXED - 62 JUL 20 1950
37

PC: AIR LAMPRE

68 AUG 7 1950
71 AUG 7 1950

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

July 19, 1965

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

URGENT

0
THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R

REBUTEL JUNE TWENTY NINE LAST. SUREP IMMEDIATELY.

HOOVER

EFL:hc

65-59181

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

JUL 19 1965

TELETYPE

RECEIVED FBI
JUL 19 2 30 PM '65

RECORDED - 12

65-59181-98

JUL 21 1965

SENT VIA

Per

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN - 3 1950

WASHINGTON 6, NEW YORK 6, AND NEWARK 6 FROM PHILA 6-3-50

DIRECTOR AND SACS

U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE NEWARK TEL JUNE SECOND. THE
NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD NOT AT THE PRESENT TIME INTERVIEW KNOWN
ASSOCIATES OF BLACK ESPECIALLY FASS AND SEGESSEMAN. NEWARK OFFICE
WILL BE ADVISED WHEN SUCH INQUIRY SHOULD BE MADE. FOR INFO OF BUREAU
AND INTERESTED OFFICES, NO ADDITIONAL INFO DEVELOPED AT PENNA STATE
COLLEGE EXCEPT THAT SUBJECT ATTENDED THERE SEPT., NINETEEN TWENTYFIVE
TO JUNE, NINETEEN TWENTYNINE, AT WHICH TIME HE DID NOT GRADUATE
BECAUSE OF LOW GRADES. SURVEILLANCE DISCLOSED THAT SUB IS PROCEEDING
TO NEWARK, ACCOMPANIED BY THREE AGENTS OF THE PHILA OFFICE. NEWARK
ADVISED BY PHONE AND THE SURVEILLANCE WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE
NEWARK OFFICE AT NEWARK. FOR THE INFO OF NEWARK, THE BUREAU HAS
REQUESTED THAT DAILY SUMMARY TELETYPES BE FURNISHED CONCERNING THE
RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION,. THE NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD, EACH DAY
THAT SUBJECT IS IN NEWARK, SUBMIT A SUMMARY TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU,
NEW YORK AND PHILA. SHOWING RESULTS OF THE SURVEILLANCE OF SUBJECT
WHILE IN NEWARK.

CORNELIUS

END

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WAPH R 6 WA FEJ

NY PH R 6 NYC VTH

PH. 4 TEL. REC

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED - 59

JUN 21 1950

165-59181-99

cc: Mr. Belmont

BUDEAU 12 NEWARK 6 NEW YORK 6 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-5-50 7-27

DIRECTOR AND SACS

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE R. RE PHILA TEL OF JUNE FOUR.
GOLD HAS BANK ACCOUNT AT INDUSTRIAL TRUST CO., ONE NINE FOUR FOUR
N. FRONT ST., PHILA. ACCOUNT OPENED NINETEEN FORTY SIX AND PRELIMINARY
SURVEY SHOWS APPARENTLY NORMAL ACTIVITY. SURVEY CONTINUING. THOMAS
L. BLACK, TWO NAUGHT SEVEN TWO N. SIXTY SECOND ST., PHILA., NOT IDENTICAL
WITH SUBJECT. JACOB FASS, ONE EIGHT SIX TWO WIDENER PLACE., PHILA.
POSSIBLE MEMBER OF OAK LANE CLUB, CP USA, DISTRICT NO. THREE, NOT
IDENTICAL WITH JACOB FASS WHO OPERATES SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO, TRASH
COVER ON SUBJECT-S PRESENT ADDRESS, ONE NINE TWO NINE NORTH SIXTH ST.
PLACED TODAY. MAIL COVER ON ALL MAIL RECEIVED AT ONE NINE TWO NINE
NORTH SIXTH PLACED TODAY. SURVEILLANCE MOTION PICTURES OF THOMAS
BLACK DEVELOPED LOCALLY AND SENT SPECIAL DELIVERY TO
BALTIMORE OFFICE FOR SHOWING TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS WITH REQUEST
THAT BALTIMORE IMMEDIATELY FORWARD FILM TO NY FOR SHOWING TO LOUIS
BUDENZ AND ELIZABETH BENTLEY IF LATTER IS IN NY. BLACK RETURNED VIA
PRR FROM NEWARK AT TEN FIFTY SEVEN P M, DST. SURVEILLANCE TODAY INDICATES
NO ADDITIONAL CONTACTS. SUBJECT-S ACTIVITY CONFINED TO NORMAL
PURSUITS. HARRY GOLD ON INTERVIEW REGARDING BLACK EXECUTED A
SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE FACTS SURROUNDING BLACK-S
MISPRISION OF A FELONY. WHEN GOLD TOLD BLACK THAT HE WAS THE

52 JUL 27 1950

65-59181-100

PAGE TWO

INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM ~~FUCHS~~ GAVE THE INFO ON ATOMIC ENERGY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE SOVIETS; GOLD ALSO TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD VISITED FUCHS SISTER IN CAMBRIDGE AND THAT SHE COULD PROBABLY IDENTIFY HIM. TO THIS BLACK SAID THAT IF QUOTE I WERE PICKED UP AND QUESTIONED, I SHOULD DENY EVERYTHING BECAUSE IT WOULD BE MY WORD AGAINST THAT OF ANOTHER PERSON UNQUOTE. BLACK ACCORDING TO GOLD, REALIZED THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION. GOLD ALSO TOLD BLACK THAT FUCHS HAD KNOWN HIM WELL AND COULD POSITIVELY IDENTIFY HIM. GOLD STATES QUOTE, WE EVEN DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY THAT FUCHS MIGHT BE BROUGHT OVER TO THE U. S. TO STAND TRIAL AND WOULD POINT ME OUT IN A COURT OF LAW. HERE AGAIN, BLACK TOLD ME THAT WHILE THAT WOULD BE VERY BAD, STILL IT WAS ESSENTIALLY ONLY FUCHS WORD AGAINST MINE UNQUOTE. GOLD STATED THAT HIS PRINCIPAL CONCERN IN HIS OWN CASE WAS HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY AND REQUESTED BLACK THAT IF HE, GOLD, WERE APPREHENDED THAT HE HELP TO COMFORT THE FAMILY DUE TO FACT THAT GOLD HAD KEPT COMPLETELY CONCEALED HIS ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. GOLD WAS SHOWN THE ROUGH DRAFT REPORTS CONCERNING THOMAS L. BLACK SEIZED AS A RESULT OF A SEARCH OF HIS HOME. GOLD HAS IDENTIFIED TWO ROUGH DRAFT REPORTS WHICH HE STATED HE HAD SUBMITTED TO A SOVIET CONTACT WHOM HE KNEW AS QUOTE FRED UNQUOTE. THE DATE WAS APPROXIMATELY JUNE OF NINETEEN THIRTYEIGHT. GOLD STATED THAT HE PREPARED THIS REPORT UPON THE SPECIFIC DIRECTION OF HIS SUPERIOR WHO HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO VISIT BLACK ON THIS OCCASION AND ADVISE THE SUPERIOR OF BLACK-S WHEREABOUTS. ON THE FIRST CONTACT BY

65-59181-100

PAGE THREE

GOLD WITH BLACK AT THE HOSPITAL AFTER BLACK WAS INJURED GOLD-S
SUPERIOR CRITICIZED THIS ACTION. HOWEVER, SINCE GOLD HAD ALREADY
VISITED BLACK, HE WAS THEN INSTRUCTED BY HIS SUPERIOR TO REVISIT BLACK
AND MAKE A REPORT. NEWARK WILL LOCATE BLACK-S SELECTIVE SERVICE
RECORD AND OBTAIN COMPLETE INFO FROM IT NOTING THAT BLACK PROBABLY
REGISTERED ON OCT. SIXTEEN, NINETEEN FORTY AND AT THAT TIME LIVED AT
ONE SEVEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK. NEWARK REQUESTED TO EXPEDITE ALL
INVESTIGATION AND SUBMIT RESULTS IN DETAIL.

CORNELIUS

NEWARK ACK AND DISC PLS

BUREAU AND NY HOLD PLS

NK PH R 6 NK CEG

65-59181-100

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS,
ESPIONAGE - R.

DATE: July 3, 1950

Enclosed herewith is the photograph of Dr. LUDWIG J. CHRISTMANN, which was furnished by the New Haven office. The photograph of CHRISTMANN was exhibited to THOMAS L. BLACK who identified it as being LOUIS CHRISTMANN.

This photograph is being furnished to the Bureau at the request of the New Haven office and the Bureau should make additional copies as requested in the New Haven letter of June 27, 1950. The Bureau is requested to return the original photograph to the New Haven office for return to the AMERICAN CYANAMIDE CO.

WET/lt
65-4332

Enclosure - Registered Mail

cc: New Haven.

orig. for Phila. P.D. J.
7/7/50

Ask memo on
c. Thann
JUL 11 1950

RECORDED - 59

INDEXED - 59

65-59181-101

Three
w/ C.

SAC, New Haven

July 11, 1950

Director, FBI

65-59181-101

Thomas L. Black, was.

Espionage - R

REGISTERED MAIL

Reference is made to your letter dated June 27, 1950, and also to the Philadelphia letter dated July 3, 1950, transmitting one photograph pertaining to the above-captioned matter.

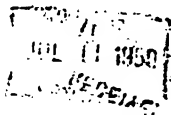
In accordance with your request, prints have been made and sufficient prints are being forwarded to the Philadelphia and Newark Field Divisions. The remaining prints are being forwarded together with the original to your office herewith.

Enclosure

cc Philadelphia (with enclosure)
Newark " "

RCR:CT

cc



65-59181-101

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 1945

RECEIVED

(4)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Gandy _____

7-11-45 9:00

BUREAU 14 NEWARK 1 AND NEW YORK 6 FROM 7414P
DIRECTOR AND SACS NEWARK AND NEW YORK

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESPIONAGE DASH R. INQUIRY AT STATE COLLEGE REFLECTS FERDINAND PHILIP HELLER ATTENDED THERE FROM DECEMBER, TWENTYSIX, TO JUNE TEN, THIRTY, GRADUATING WITH BS DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY. HELLER TOOK TWO YEARS ROTC TRAINING. LIVED AT SIX TWO EIGHT ALLEN ST., WAITS HALL, AND ONE ONE THREE HEISTER ST., STATE COLLEGE. FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM PENN STATE, TOOK GRADUATE WORK IN CHEMISTRY FOR SIX MONTHS AT UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA. DOROTHY WISWELL, WHO WAS DIVORCED FROM HELLER IN FORTYFIVE, ADVISED SHE KNEW HIM SOCIALLY BEGINNING NINETEEN THIRTYSEVEN AND MARRIED HIM IN FORTYTHREE. SHE KNOWS BLACK AS COLLEGE ACQUAINTANCE AND LONGTIME FRIEND OF HELLER. PRIOR TO AND DURING MARRIAGE, HELLER VISITED BLACK AT LATTER-S NEWARK APARTMENT ON AVERAGE OF ONCE A MONTH. ON MANY OCCASIONS, WISWELL ACCOMPANIED HELLER. SHE SAYS THEY CONTINUALLY DISCUSSED DATA DURING THIS PERIOD THE POSSIBILITY OF GOING INTO BUSINESS TOGETHER BUT NEVER ACCOMPLISHED THIS OBJECTIVE PARTLY BECAUSE NEITHER BLACK NOR HELLER WERE PRACTICAL BUSINESSMEN AND PARTLY FOR LACK OF CAPITAL. DURING VISITS TO BLACK-S APARTMENT, BLACK AND HELLER DISCUSSED CHEMICAL FORMULAE, OF WHICH HELLER OFTEN CARRIED WRITTEN COPIES WISWELL BELIEVES THESE FORMULAE PERTAINED AT LEAST IN PART TO PROCESS MANUFACTURED BY BLACK-S AND HELLER-S EMPLOYERS. DURING THIS PERIOD, BLACK EMPLOYED BY HOPCO AND HELLER BY AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO. WISWELL ALSO RECALLED DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN BLACK AND HELLER REGARDING

END PAGE ONE

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65-59181-102

(5)

PAGE TWO

WHAT MATERIAL ANTORE WOULD WANT. SHE HAD DIFFICULTY RECALLING DETAILS OF THIS REFERENCE TO ANTORE BUT WAS SURE THAT THE DISCUSSION DID NOT INVOLVE THE POSSIBILITY OF SELLING MATERIAL TO THEM. WISWELL SAID THAT ~~BLACK~~ BLACK FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED MARXISM AND APPEARED TO BE A BELIEVER IN IT, ALTHO HE NEVER DEFINITELY ADMITTED TO HER MEMBERSHIP IN THE CP. HELLER WAS ALSO FAIR

LIAR WITH MARXISM BUT EVADED A DEFINITE ANSWER WHEN WISWELL ATTEMPTED TO FIND OUT IF HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE CP. SHE IS OF OPINION BLACK-S AND HELLER-S COMMUNIST LEANINGS RESULTED FROM CONTACTS MADE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR GRADUATION FROM COLLEGE WHEN THEY LIVED IN GREENWICH VILLAGE, NY. MARY F. GALLAGHER, ADDITIONAL LIBRARY ASSISTANT AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE LIBRARY, PHILADELPHIA, FURNISHED SIGNED STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT SHE RECALLS MEETINGS BETWEEN BLACK AND GOLD AT FRANKLIN INSTITUTE LIBRARY AT INTERVALS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF NINETEEN FIFTY. SHE CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED ~~BLACK~~ PHOTOGRAPHS OF BLACK AND GOLD. HARRY ROSEN, DRIVER FOR YELLOW CAB CO., ~~PHILADELPHIA~~ PHILADELPHIA, FURNISHED SIGNED STATEMENT REGARDING CIRCUMSTANCES ~~OF~~ MEETING BETWEEN FERDINAND HELLER AND THOMAS BLACK AT FIFTH AND BEEKS STS., PHILADELPHIA, JUNE NINE, FIFTY. ROSEN ALSO RELATED INFORMATION REGARDING HELLER-S ~~FOREIGN~~ FOREIGN TRIP WHICH HELLER GAVE HIM WHILE A PASSENGER IN ROSEN-S CAB. PHOTOSTATIC COPIES OF ROSEN-S HAYBURN FOR JUNE NINE OBTAINED AND SHOWS TRIP BY ROSEN FROM BELLEVUE STRATFORD HOTEL TO ONE NINE NINE CHEW AVE. ROSEN IDENTIFIED PHOTOGRAPH OF BLACK AS PERSON HELLER MET AND TALKED WITH BRIEFLY AT

END PAGE TWO

65-59181-102

PAGE THREE

FIFTH AND BERKS STS. PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE OF BLACK TODAY REFLECTED A CONTACT WITH A MAN BELIEVED TO BE ALVIN W. SCHECTER, OF FOUR FIVE ONE FOUR OR FOUR FIVE ONE FIVE PINE ST. PHILADELPHIA INDICES RE SCHECTER NEGATIVE. IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THAT BLACK AND SCHECTER BOTH USED DEFINITELY EVASIVE TACTICS AT AND FOLLOWING THEIR CONTACT. AFTER BLACK LEFT WORK THIS PM, ~~WHEN~~ HE WENT TO HELLER-S HOME, ONE NINE NINE W. CHEW AVENUE. INQUIRY AT YELLOW RENTAL CORPORATION REFLECTS THAT BLACK, JACOB PASS AND JOSEPH MULLEN HIRED TRUCK ON THREE OCCASION IN APRIL AND MAY, FIFTY, TO MOVE SPRUCE CHEMICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO NEW JERSEY. SOME OF BLACK-S PERSONAL BELONGINGS TAKEN FROM HIS ROOM TO ~~PRXX~~ SPRUCE CHEMICAL-S NEW PLANT ON ONE TRIP. JAMES EDWARD BROWN, SUPERVISOR, RUTH ST. SHOP, YELLOW RENTAL CORPORATION, DROVE HIRED TRUCK ON ONE TRIP AND REPORTS THAT BLACK INDICATED HE PLANS TO MOVE TO NEW JERSEY IN FALL OF FIFTY TO WORK WITH SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY.

CORNELIUS

END

CORREC FIRST PAGE NINTH LINE FIRST WD SHD BE BEGINNING

ACK PLS

WA PH R 14 WA WJR

PH R 6 NYC CJJ

NK-PH R 1 NK EM

DISC

cc: Mr. [unclear]

65-59181-102

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

6-13-50 10-3

(3)

WASHINGTON 21, NEW YORK 9 AND NEWARK 3 FROM PHILA
 DIRECTOR AND SACS NEW YORK, NEWARK, WFO URGENT
 THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. HARRY GOLD IN INTERVIEW THIS DATE STATED
 THAT FERDINAND HELLER WAS THE INDIVIDUAL WHO FIRST SENT GOLD TO
 JERSEY CITY IN JAN. OR FEB., THIRTY THREE, WHEN GOLD SECURED EM-
 PLOYMENT WITH THE HOLBROOK MFG. CO. GOLD SAID THAT HELLER AND BLACK
 HAD BEEN CLOSE FRIENDS AT THAT TIME AND THAT BOTH HAD ATTENDED PA.
 STATE COLLEGE TOGETHER. GOLD SAID THAT AT COLLEGE, BOTH BLACK AND
 HELLER WERE SOCIALISTS AND HE BELIEVES THAT HELLER MAY LATER
 HAVE BECOME A COMMUNIST. GOLD SAID THAT THE REASON THAT HE BELIEVES
 HELLER MIGHT HAVE BEEN A COMMUNIST IS SOMETHING HELLER SAID IN
 THIRTY THREE OR THIRTY FIVE IN AN APARTMENT IN GREENWICH VILLAGE,
 NYC, WHERE BLACK, GOLD AND HELLER WERE VISITING SOME FRIEND OF HELLER.
 GOLD SAID HE RECALLS AT THAT TIME THAT HELLER WAS DEFENDING THE
 SOVIET SYSTEM WHEREBY CHILDREN ARE PLACED IN A DAY NURSERY WHILE
 THEIR MOTHERS WORK IN AN ADJACENT FACTORY. GOLD SAID HE LAST SAW
 HELLER IN THIRTYEIGHT BEFORE GOING TO COLLEGE OR PERHAPS IN THE
 SUMMER OF FORTY AFTER GOLD RETURNED FROM COLLEGE. GOLD SAID THAT
 HELLER WORKED AT THE PA. SUGAR CO. UNTIL THE LATE FALL OF THIRTY
 THREE AND FROM THEN ON, GOLD BELIEVES HELLER HAS BEEN EMPLOYED BY
 THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO., ANBLER, WHICH IS OUTSIDE OF

REX
 RHP

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

PHILADELPHIA. GOLD SAID HE BELIEVES HE IS A SALES AND SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS CO. GOLD SAID THAT HE CAN ONLY RECALL BEING TOGETHER WITH BOTH BLACK AND HELLER ABOUT TWO OR THREE TIMES. GOLD SAID THAT IN RECENT YEARS EVERY TIME HE HAS ASKED BLACK ABOUT HELLER, BLACK HAS BRUSHED THE QUESTION ASIDE. GOLD SAID THAT SOMETHING STICKS IN HIS MIND WHICH HE CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT CLEARLY STATE, THAT BLACK AT ONE TIME TRIED TO HAVE HELLER GIVE BLACK INFO FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE SOVIETS. GOLD DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER BLACK WAS SUCCESSFUL OR NOT IN THIS ATTEMPT. GOLD SAID THAT HE BELIEVES THAT ANOTHER REASON FOR BLACK-S NOT ASSOCIATING TOO MUCH WITH HELLER WAS THAT THE LATTER HAD UPON OCCASION WHAT GOLD DESCRIBED AS QUOTE WOMAN TROUBLE UNQUOTE AND BLACK FELT HE WOULD CALL TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO BLACK. GOLD SAID THAT HE RECALLS THAT SOMETIME DURING THE SUMMER OF FORTY NINE, HE WAS WITH BLACK IN PHILA WHEN BLACK WAS MAILING A PACKAGE OF ORDINARY UNEXPOSED FILM TO HELLER, WHO WAS IN SWITZERLAND ON BUSINESS AT THAT TIME FOR THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO. GOLD COULD NOT STATE WHETHER THIS REPRESENTED ANY CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH BLACK AND HELLER OR WHETHER HELLER MERELY HAD NO ONE ELSE WHOM HE COULD ASK TO SEND HIM THE FILM. WHO IS REQUESTED TO CHECK PASSPORT DIVISION, STATE DEPT., FOR ANY RECORD OF FERDINAND HELLER, ONE NINE NINE CHEW ST., PHILA. INASMUCH AS GOLD-S FATHER AND BROTHER VISITED HIM AT THE HOLMESBURG PRISON THIS DATE AND LEFT GOLD IN AN EMOTIONALLY UPSET STATE, THE INTERVIEW WITH GOLD WAS

65-5981-103

RECEIVED

11 13 PM '50

JUN 13 1950

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

BUREAU 19 NEWARK 2 AND NEW YORK 7 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-13-50 7:31 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP. - R. MONDAY EVENING JUNE TWELVE, SUBJECT
MADE CALL OF FOUR OR FIVE MINUTES DURATION AT HOME OF LEON COOPER,
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHT DALLAS ST., WHICH IS ONE OF BLACK- FORMER
ADDRESSES. COOPER FORMER OWNER OF SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. RETURNING FROM
THIS VISIT BLACK EMPLOYED EVASIVE TACTICS. DURING EVENING MAILED LETTER
TO JACOB I. FASS AT BROOKLYN. LATER IN EVENING MADE THREE TRIPS FROM
LABORATORIES TO HOME AT NINETEEN HUNDRED TWENTY NINE NORTH SIXTH ST.,
CARRYING TO LATER LOCATION FOUR CARTONS CONTAINING UNKNOWN MATERIAL.
TRASH COVER FURNISHED LETTER DATED JUNE SEVEN, NINETEEN FIFTY, AT WORCESTER
MASS. WITH ILLEGIBLE SIGNATURE, POSSIBLY ERIC. FROM CONTEXT APPEARS
LIKELY WRITER ALSO EMPLOYED BY BERG LABORATORIES AND PLANNING ALONG WITH
BLACK TO LEAVE AND SET UP BUSINESS. THIS POSSIBLY IS PART OF PLAN FOR
SETTING UP A SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. IN NORTH JERSEY. PROPRIETOR OF BERG
LABORATORIES HAS SON IN LAW, ERIC BERG. SIMILARITY IN NAMES IS COINCIDENT
TRASH COVER ALSO FURNISHED TWO LETTERS FROM YANK, NICKNAME OF JACOB
FASS. THESE LETTERS DEALT WITH PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION NEW SPRUCE
CHEMICAL BUILDING. LETTER FROM WORCESTER SAID THAT WRITER AND UNNAMED
PERSON WOULD BE IN PATTERSON JUNE SEVENTEEN SO POSSIBILITY EXISTS BLACK

END PAGE ONE

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ALSO PLANS TRIP THERE SAME DATE. LEON CHERKSEY, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN
✓ CHEMICAL PAINT CO., ADVISED FERDINAND HELLER EMPLOYED THERE SINCE MAY,
NINETEEN THIRTY SEVEN, AS TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE. IN THAT CAPACITY
MADE TRIP TO SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, AND OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
BETWEEN SEPT. ONE AND DEC. FIFTEEN, NINETEEN FORTY NINE. MADE SECOND
TRIP

ABOUT MAY ONE RETURNING FRIDAY, JUNE NINE. LATTER TRIP TO TURIN, IT
TO LEND ASSISTANCE TO A. C. P. LICENSEE IN FIAT PLANT. HELLER IS FULL
TIME EMPLOYEE AND REPRESENTED ONLY A C P ON TRIPS. CHERKSEY DESCRIBED
HELLER AS COMPETENT EMPLOYEE. ADVISED THAT ON RETURN TO WORK HELLER
TOLD CHERKSEY LATTER COULD EXPECT VISIT FROM FBI SINCE HELLER WAS ONCE
A FELLOW EMPLOYEE OF HARRY GOLD. HELLER ATTENDED PENN STATE COLLEGE AT
SAME TIME AS BLACK ACCORDING TO INFO RECEIVED FROM HARRY GOLD TODAY.
✓ SURVEILLANCE DURING DAY, JUNE THIRTEEN, REFLECTED ROUTINE ACTIVITIES BY
BLACK. NK WILL ATTEMPT TO LEARN WHETHER JACOB FASS HAS RELATIVES IN
PHILA BECAUSE LETTER FROM FASS MENTIONED ABOVE, CONTAINED FOLLOWING
STATEMENT QUOTE, PLEASE SEND MY REGARDS TO ALL OF MY RELATIVES IF YOU
HAVE A CHANCE AND FEEL IT SAFE UNQUOTE. NK ALSO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY
THAT MARVIN HENSCHEL, ALLEGED TO HAVE LIVED AT CHELLIS. - AUSTIN APARTMENT
✓ RENTED BY BLACK, COULD BE IDENTICAL WITH ERIC BERG, SON IN LAW OF BLACK-
PRESENT EMPLOYER. SECURE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION PERSON KNOWN AS MARVIN
HENSCHEL.

CORNELIUS

cc: *Mr. Sampson*
65-59181-104

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 13 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

5-87 PM

WASHINGTON 4 PHILA 4 NEW YORK 3 FROM NEWARK

13

DIRECTOR AND SACS - URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE TWELVE. DR. B. ROBINSON, ASST. VICE PRES OFNOPCO CHEMICAL CO. ADVISED THAT FINE ORGANICS INC. OF NYC AND LODI, N. J., IS A SMALL COMPANY WHICH HANDLED GOVT. CONTRACTS DURING WORLD WAR TWO. MANUFACTURED EXTRACTS OF CHAULMOOGRA OIL FOR CONTROL OF LEPROSY, LIQUID GERMICIDES FOR USE BY MEDICAL DEPT OF THE ARMY, AND ANTI-OXIDENTS. ROBINSON BELIEVES THAT ERNEST SEGESSEMAN LEFT NATL OIL PRODUCTS IN FORTY TWO TO TAKE ACTIVE PART IN MANAGEMENT OF FINE ORGANICS TO ASSURE PROTECTION OF CONSIDERABLE FUNDS WHICH HE HAD INVESTED OR LOANED TO NICHOLAS MOLNAR, HEAD OF F. O. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING TO ASCERTAIN IDENTITY AND BACKGROUND OF MARVIN HENSCHEL.

MC KEE

END

A I O PLS

WA 7 NK R 4 WA DCL

PH NK R 4 PH MOB

NY NK R 3 NY JJG

DSC

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INDEXED - 35
JUN 21 1950

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 12 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

EX 12:31 PM
[Signature]

WASHINGTON 7 AND NEWARK 1 FROM PHILADELPHIA 7-12-50

DIRECTOR AND SAC.. U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, ESP. R. UACB SURVEILLANCE ON BLACK
WILL BE DISCONTINUED THIS AFTERNOON BECAUSE OF LACK OF
PRODUCTIVITY AND BECAUSE BLACK HAS STATED HE IS AWARE OF
SURVEILLANCE. SURVEILLANCE WILL THEREAFTER BE REINSTITUTED ON
SPOT CHECK BASIS AS NECESSITY IS INDICATED BY FUTURE INTERVIEWS
AND INVESTIGATION.

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960
CORNELIUS

CORRECTION - LINE FOUR, NEXT TO LAST WORD IS "REINSTITUTED"

END

BOTH AADPLS

NK PH R 1 NK CEC

WA WH PH R 7 WA ED

RECORDED - 59

✓ cc: 777 - Philadelphia

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5-82
PHILADELPHIA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 11 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Handwritten initials and signature over routing slip

WASHINGTON 16 AND NEWARK 2 FROM PHILA

7-11-50

10-58

DIRECTOR AND SAC DEFERRED

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R.

BLACK RETURNED PHILADELPHIA FROM NEWARK SUNDAY NIGHT, JULY NINE.

NOT INTERVIEWED JULY TEN. INTERVIEWED TUESDAY, JULY ELEVEN, AT PHILA.

OFFICE, SIX PM TO TEN PM. INTERVIEW CONSISTED OF REVIEW MATERIAL FROM

HIS PHILADELPHIA RESIDENCE. NOTHING PERTAINING TO ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY

LOCATED DURING TODAY-S INTERVIEW. SURVEILLANCE CONTINUING BUT NOT

PRODUCTIVE.

CORNELIUS

COPIES DESTROYED

END R 47 NOV 21 1960

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PH R 2 NK RSF

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JUL 11 1950

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5-EL

JUN 15 1950

TELETYPE

WASHINGTON 11 FROM PHILA

6-15-50

405 PM

DIRECTOR....URGENT

0
THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE R. FOLLOWING SIGNED STATEMENT
OBTAINED TODAY FROM SUBJECT. QUOTE. PHILADELPHIA, PA. JUNE
FIFTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY. I, THOMAS L. BLACK, MAKE THE FOLLOWING
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT TO SPECIAL AGENTS ROBERT W. HOLMES AND WILLIAM
B. WELTE, JR., WHO HAVE IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES TO ME AS BEING
SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION. I HAVE
BEEN ADVISED THAT I NEED NOT MAKE THIS STATEMENT AND THAT ANY-
THING THAT I MAY SAY CAN BE USED AGAINST ME IN A COURT OF LAW.
THIS STATEMENT IS VOLUNTARY. NO FORCE, THREATS, DURESS OR PROMISES
HAVE BEEN MADE TO ME. I HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT I AM ENTITLED TO
THE RIGHT OF COUNSEL. I RESIDE AT ONE NINE TWO NINE W. SIXTH
STREET, PHILADELPHIA TWENTYTWO. I AM EMPLOYED AS A CONSULTANT
CHEMIST PRINCIPALLY FOR THE CHARLES S. BORG LABORATORIES, ONE

EIGHT TWO SEVEN W. FIFTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. I HAVE KNOWN
HARRY GOLD SINCE FEBRUARY NINETEEN THIRTY THREE. WE DEVELOPED A
CLOSE FRIENDSHIP OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS, AND FOR THE PAST TEN
YEARS WE HAVE SEEN EACH OTHER ONCE EVERY TEN MONTHS. IT HAS
BECOME CUSTOMARY FOR HARRY AND I TO ARRANGE FOR A MEETING BY TELEPHONE
AND LATER MEET AT THE PREARRANGED PLACE. THIS HAS GENERALLY BEEN
AT THE LIBRARY OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, OR OCCASIONALLY AT THE BROAD
STREET STATION, A BURN AND BARCLAY BUILDING, OR SOME WHERE NEAR BY.

HIS LABORATORY IN THE HOSPITAL. IN THE EARLY PART OF FEBRUARY
NINETEEN FIFTY AFTER THE ARREST OF GOLD, HARRY GOLD CALLED ME ON
THE TELEPHONE AND SAID THAT IT WAS QUITE URGENT THAT WE SEE ME.
I TOLD GOLD THAT I HAD SOME PERSONAL BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF IN
THE BOWN TOWN SECTION AND THAT I WOULD MEET HIM IN THE EVENING.

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

BROAD STREET STATION. FROM THERE WE WALKED TO TWENTY ONE TWENTY FOUR SPRUCE STREET WHERE I WAS TO PICK UP A RADIO WHICH BELONGED TO ME. DURING THIS WALK HARRY TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN FUCH-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND THAT IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM HE WANTED ME TO LOOK AFTER HIS FATHER AND BROTHER. AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL HIS EXACT WORDS WERE QUOTE THE FBI IS LOOKING FOR FUCH-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND I AM THAT MAN. UNQUOTE. HE SAID THAT IF HE SHOULD BE CAUGHT HE WAS GOING TO TAKE AN OVERDOSE OF SLEEPING TABLETS WHICH HE HAD ACQUIRED, THIS BEING THE EASIEST WAY OUT. I TRIED TO PERSUADE HIM FROM COMMITTING SUICIDE. I ACCOMPLISHED MY PERSONAL BUSINESS AND WE SEPARATED. I HAD NO REASON TO DISBELIEVE HARRY-S STATEMENT BECAUSE I DID KNOW THAT HE TRAVELED TO NEW YORK OCCASIONALLY WITHOUT ANY APPARENT BUSINESS, AND I ALSO KNEW THAT HE MADE A TRIP TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO SOME TIME BEFORE THE TEST ATOMIC BOMB WAS EXPLODED IN NEW MEXICO. I KNOW THIS BECAUSE HE TELEPHONED ME FROM A HOTEL IN ALBUQUERQUE AND ASKED ME TO TELEGRAPH HIM SOME FUNDS. I WAS SHORT OF FUNDS MYSELF AT THE TIME AND SO I DID NOT COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST. I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF THE NATURE OF HIS BUSINESS IN NEW MEXICO, BUT I PRESUMED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY WITH REFERENCE TO EMPLOYMENT. THE TELEPHONE CALL REFERRED TO WAS MADE IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING TO MY HOME ADDRESS AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, TELEPHONE NUMBER MARKET THREE FIVE SEVEN ONE NAUGHT QUESTION MARK IN PARENTHESES. I HAVE NEVER PREVIOUSLY

END PAGE TWO

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PAGE TWO THREE

GIVEN THE INFORMATION OF HARRY-S COMPLICITY TO ANYONE UP UNTIL THIS TIME. I FULLY REALIZE THAT I HAD CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CITIZEN TO INFORM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES OF HIS STATEMENT. THE REASON THAT I DID NOT INFORM ANYONE WAS THAT I WAS FRANKLY VERY SCARED AT THE TIME AND I DID NOT WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED IF IT COULD BE AVOIDED. ALSO, IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION TO BE FORCED TO MAKE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD GIVE ANY INFORMATION TOLD TO ME IN CONFIDENCE WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE A FRIEND OF VERY LONG STANDING. IN RETROSPECT I VERY DEEPLY REGRET THAT I DID NOT AT THAT TIME COME FORWARD WITH THE INFORMATION WHICH WOULD HAVE AIDED IN HARRY-S APPREHENSION. IF I CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO THE FBI IN THIS OR OTHER MATTERS I AM WILLING TO COOPERATE. I HAVE DICTATED THIS TO A STENOGRAPHER IN THE PHILADELPHIA OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION. THE SUM OF MONEY REQUESTED BY HARRY GOLD FROM ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. PARENTHESIS REFERRED TO ABOVE CLOSE PARENTHESIS WAS FIFTY DOLLARS AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL. I KNEW FROM THE NEWSPAPERS THAT KLAUS FUCHS HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN ENGLAND FOR TRANSMISSION OF A-BOMB SECRETS TO THE SOVIET UNION. HARRY GOLD TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN THE CONTACT MAN BETWEEN FUCHS AND A SOVIET AGENT, IN TRANSMITTING THESE SECRETS. I HAVE READ THIS TWO PAGE STATEMENT AND IT IS IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, RECOLLECTIONS AND BELIEFS. I-M SIGNING THIS AND THE OTHER PAGE. WITNESS WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR. SPEC. AGT. F. B. I. PHILA., PA. ROBERT W. HOLMES SPECIAL AGENT

END PAGE THREE

65-59181-108

PAGE FOUR

FBI PHILA PA. THOMAS L. BLACK ONE NINE TWO NINE N. SIXTH ST. JUNE FIFTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY UNQUOTE. BLACK STATES THAT IN THE EARLY NINETEEN THIRTIES HE AND FERDINAND P. HELLER WENT TO AMTORG AND CONTACTED GAIK OVAKIMIAN TO TELL HIM THEY WANTED TO LIVE IN RUSSIA. OVAKIMIAN TOLD THEM THAT RUSSIA COULDN'T AFFORD TO TAKE THEM OVER THERE, THAT IT WOULD BE MORE PROFITABLE FOR THEM TO REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY AND WORK FOR THE RUSSIANS HERE. HE STATES THAT THEY BEGAN TO WORK FOR THE RUSSIANS. HE IS CURRENTLY FURNISHING DETAILS WHICH WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE BUREAU AS OBTAINED. HE FURTHER SUGGESTS THAT FERDINAND HELLER BE INTERVIEWED AND THAT INTERVIEW TAKE PLACE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE AS HELLER IS PLANNING TO BE MARRIED NEXT WEEK AND WILL LEAVE TOWN ON A HONEYMOON. HELLER FIRST CAME TO ATTENTION THIS OFFICE DURING INTERVIEW WITH HARRY GOLD, WHEN GOLD TOLD THAT HELLER, A FELLOW EMPLOYEE AT PENNSYLVANIA SUGAR COMPANY, HAD FIRST PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH BLACK SO THAT GOLD COULD TAKE OVER BLACKS JOB AT HOLBROOK MANUFACTURING COMPANY IN EARLY NINETEEN THIRTY THREE. HELLER HAS JUST RETURNED FROM TRIP TO ITALY AND IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL IN THIS COUNTRY MADE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH BLACK FOR A FEW MINUTES. THEREAFTER BLACK HAS VISITED HELLER AT HOME ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS INCLUDING NIGHT OF JUNE FOURTEEN. AUTHORIZATION WILL BE REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW HELLER AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE OBTAINED FROM BLACK. SURVEILLANCE BEING PLACED ON HELLER IMMEDIATELY.

CORNELIUS

END

65-59181-108

cc

Mr. Belmont
Mr. Lough

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 8 NEW YORK 3 PHILA 1 FROM NEWARK

15

DIRECTOR AND SACS

.... URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE THIRTEENTH. INDIVIDUALS WHO OCCUPIED BLACK-S APARTMENT AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD STREET, NEWARK, DURING FORTY EIGHT IDENTIFIED AS MR. AND MRS. MARVIN HENSCHEL, SIX ONE ONE WEST ONE FORTYEIGHTH STREET, NYC, PHONE NUMBER FOUNDATION EIGHT SEVEN FOUR FOUR FIVE. HENSCHELS MOVED FROM BLACK-S APARTMENT IN JANUARY FORTY NINE TO ONE FIVE FIVE THREE YORK AVENUE, NYC, WHERE THEY RESIDED APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR BEFORE MOVING TO PRESENT ADDRESS. HENSCHEL NOW EMPLOYED AT SAKS FIFTH AVENUE IN NYC, PHONE EXTENSION FIVE TWO ONE. ABOVE INFO OBTAINED BY PRETEXT PHONE CALL TO MRS. LEON HENSCHEL, ONE ELEVEN SOUTH HARRISON AVENUE, EAST ORANGE, NJ, MOTHER OF MARVIN. LEON HENSCHEL, FATHER, RUNS USED CAR LOT AT FOUR FIVE SEVEN CENTRAL AVENUE, ORANGE, NJ. EXAMINATION THIS DATE OF BLACK-S CHECKING ACCOUNT AT WEST HUDSON NATL BANK DISCLOSES WEEKLY PAYMENTS OF TEN DOLLARS FROM FEBRUARY TO MAY NINETEEN FORTY SIX TO A SARA ANN MELLOR. NEWARK INDICES NEGATIVE RE MELLOR. NY OBTAIN PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND OF MARVIN HENSCHEL. NY AND PHILA CHECK INDICES RE SARA ANN MELLOR.

MC KEE

WA HOLD PLS NY AND PH ACK AND DISC PLS

NY NK R 3 NYC REOT

PH NK R 1 PH MOB

52 JUL 27 1950

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cc: 7/27 Longhorne

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 15 1950

TELETYPE

WASHINGTON 18 NEW YORK 6 NEWARK 2 FROM PHILA

6-15-50

DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. HARRY GOLD IN INTERVIEW THIS DATE STATED THAT BLACK ATTENDED PENNA. STATE COLLEGE WITH FERDINAND HELLER AND THAT WHILE THERE BLACK AND HELLER BECAME INTERESTED IN SOCIALISM. GOLD SAID THAT BLACK-S FIRST JOB WAS WITH THE AMERICAN CYANAMID CO. AT ELIZABETH, N. J. AND THAT BLACK STARTED WORK THERE IN ABOUT NINETEEN TWENTY SEVEN OR TWENTY EIGHT. GOLD SAID THAT IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT ONE OF BLACK-S FELLOW EMPLOYEES, A CHEMIST, WAS THE ONE WHO CONVERTED BLACK TO COMMUNISM FROM SOCIALISM. GOLD SAID HE DOES NOT RECALL THIS CHEMIST-S NAME BUT KNOWS HIS FIRST NAME WAS LOUIE AND STATED LOUIE WAS DISCHARGED FROM THE AMERICAN CYANAMID CO. IN NINETEEN THIRTY THREE OR THIRTY FOUR. GOLD ALSO SAID THAT WHILE BLACK WAS AT JERSEY CITY, N. J. BLACK HAD HIS FIRST NAME LEGALLY CHANGED FROM TASSO TO THOMAS. GOLD SAID THAT BLACK-S FATHER WAS A GREAT ADMIRER OF TASSO, THE ITALIAN POET AND THAT WAS THE REASON BLACK WAS SO NAMED. GOLD SAID AT ONE TIME BLACK RECEIVED INFO FROM HELLER CONCERNING A RUST PROOFING COMPOUND WHICH WAS BEING WORKED ON BY THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO., WHERE HELLER WAS EMPLOYED. GOLD SAID THE SOVIET AGENT TO WHOM BLACK TURNED OVER THIS INFO MUST HAVE BEEN A CHEMIST BECAUSE SHORTLY AFTER BLACK TURNED THE INFO OVER HE WAS TOLD BY HIS SOVIET

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PAGE TWO

SUPERIOR THAT THE INFO WHICH HELLER HAD FURNISHED WAS BADLY MANGLED AND MISREPRESENTED. GOLD SAID THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED SOMETIME IN NINETEEN FORTY SINCE HE PLACES IT AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT BLACK WAS BURNED AND HOSPITALIZED. GOLD SAID THAT HE IS QUITE SURE THAT HELLER KNEW THAT BLACK HAD INTRODUCED GOLD INTO SOVIET ESPIONAGE. GOLD ALSO SAID HELLER KEPT ANNOYING BLACK AND VOLUNTEERING ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS TO SUPPLY INFO TO BLACK. GOLD SAID BLACK ONCE TOLD HIM QUOTE YOU KNOW HOW THE BROTHERS ARE ABOUT ANYONE VOLUNTEERING INFO. THEY LIKE TO SELECT THEIR OWN SOURCES. UNQUOTE. GOLD SAID BY THE TERM QUOTE THE BROTHERS UNQUOTE HE AND BLACK WERE REFERRING TO THE SOVIETS. GOLD ALSO SAID THAT HE DOUBTS THAT HELLER WAS EVER ACTUALLY RECRUITED BECAUSE OF THE FACT HE WAS QUOTE TOO EAGER UNQUOTE. GOLD BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT BLACK VERY EARLY MUST HAVE WRITTEN A BACKGROUND STORY ON HELLER AND IN THIS BACKGROUND STORY BLACK PROBABLY STRESSED HELLER-S LOOSENESS WITH WOMEN. GOLD SAID FROM HIS EXPERIENCE HE WOULD DOUBT THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD RECRUIT ANYONE HAVING SUCH A FAILING. GOLD ALSO SAID THAT BLACK FREQUENTLY COMPLAINED ABOUT HELLER COMING TO BLACK-S APARTMENT IN NEWARK. GOLD SAID THAT BEGINNING SOMETIME AROUND NINETEEN FORTY BLACK SHOWED AN INCREASING DISLIKE FOR HIS WORK IN SOVIET ESPIONAGE. GOLD SAID HE ATTRIBUTED THIS DISLIKE ON THE PART OF BLACK TO THE WORK WHICH BLACK WAS ASSIGNED TO DO WITH THE TROTSKYITES WHICH GOLD SAID WAS VERY DISTASTE- FUL TO BLACK, ALSO THE ABORTIVE ATTEMPT WHICH BLACK MADE TO GAIN CERTA

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BIOLOGICALS FROM THE UNIV. OF PA. HOSPITAL AND THE TRIP WHICH BLACK
ONCE TOOK TO PITTSBURGH AND WAITED AROUND FOR HOURS WITHOUT MEETING HIS,
BLACK-S CONTACT. GOLD SAID THAT ALSO AROUND THIS TIME, THAT IS
APPROX. NINETEEN FORTY, BLACK TOLD HIM THAT IF GOLD IN HIS LEGITIMATE
WORK SHOULD COME ACROSS SOME USEFUL INFO OR IDEAS WHICH BLACK AND
GOLD COULD LATER USE FOR A LEGITIMATE BUSINESS THAT GOLD SHOULD MAKE A
NOTE OF IT. GOLD SAID THAT BLACK-S IDEA ON THIS WAS THAT IF EITHER OR
BOTH OF THEM SHOULD EVER COME UNDER SERIOUS SUSPICION TO SUCH AN EXTENT
THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO SECURE JOBS IN OTHER ORGANIZA-
TIONS, THAT AS A LAST RESORT THEY COULD GO INTO BUSINESS TOGETHER.
GOLD SAID THAT IN NINETEEN FORTY SIX HE AND BLACK DISCUSSED THE POSSI-
BILITY OF GOLD GOING UP TO WORK FOR BROTHMAN IN NY. GOLD SAID THAT
BLACK THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA. GOLD SAID THAT AT TIMES WHEN HE AND
BLACK WERE VERY WEARY, BLACK WOULD BECOME VERY DEPRESSED AND WOULD TELL
GOLD THAT EVENTUALLY THEIR ACTIVITIES WOULD BE DISCLOSED. GOLD SAID THAT
BLACK TOLD HIM UPON THESE OCCASIONS THAT SOMETIMES IT IS ONE OF THE
LEAST TRIVIAL INCIDENTS WHICH ONE MIGHT NOT HAVE CONSIDERED OR NOT EVER
REALIZED WHICH WOULD BE THE EVENTUAL CAUSE FOR A PERSON-S APPRE-
HENSION. GOLD SAID THAT FREQUENTLY WHEN BLACK WOULD APPEAR WEARY AND
GOLD WOULD TELL HIM TO GET MORE REST, BLACK WOULD SAY, ^QQUOTE THE ONLY
REST FOR YOU AND I HARRY WILL BE WHEN WE'RE IN THE GRAVE. ^AUNQUOTE.
GOLD SAID THAT SOMETIME DURING THE YEARS THIRTY SIX OR THIRTY SEVEN,
PROBABLY THIRTY SEVEN, HE AND BLACK RENTED A ROOM AT THE CARTERET HOTEL

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IN NYC USING FALSE NAMES. GOLD SAID THE TWO OF THEM SPENT ABOUT A DAY AND A HALF SAWING UP ALUMINUM ALLOY ANGLE IRONS AND DRILLING HOLES IN THEM FOR ASSEMBLY INTO A SMALL RECTANGULAR SUITCASE. THIS CASE WAS ALSO CONSTRUCTED SO THAT AN ULTRA VIOLET RAY LAMP COULD BE INSTALLED IN IT AND THE PURPOSE OF THE WHOLE DEVICE WAS FOR READING HIDDEN MESSAGES. GOLD SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT CONSTRUCTED BY HIM AND BLACK MERELY AS SOMETHING TO DO OR AGAINST AN EVENTUALITY BUT ON THE CONTRARY BLACK HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE IT BY HIS SOVIET SUPERIORS. GOLD SAID THAT THIS SUITCASE WAS ABOUT THIRTY INCHES BY SEVEN INCHES BY SIXTEEN INCHES. GOLD SAID THAT DURING THE PERIOD THIRTY SIX TO THIRTY EIGHT, HE WOULD UPON OCCASION HELP BLACK IN HIS WORK AT NOPCO. GOLD SAID THAT HE WOULD DO THIS BECAUSE BLACK WOULD GET BEHIND IN HIS WORK AND GOLD WOULD HELP HIM ON WEEKENDS AND ON SUNDAYS. GOLD SAID THAT WHEN HE RETURNED FROM COLLEGE AND DURING THE PERIOD NINETEEN FORTY TO FORTY FIVE, HE WOULD NOT SEE BLACK VERY FREQUENTLY. GOLD SAID THAT UPON OCCASION HE WOULD CALL BLACK ON THE TELEPHONE BUT STATED THAT BLACK HAD AN UNLISTED PHONE IN HIS APARTMENT AND THAT GOLD USED TO FORGET THIS NO. WITH GREAT REGULARITY. DURING THE PERIOD NINETEEN FORTY SIX TO FORTY EIGHT WHILE GOLD WAS WORKING FOR BROTHMAN, GOLD UPON OCCASION WOULD HAVE BLACK HELP HIM OUT IN THE BROTHMAN LABORATORIES. GOLD SAID THAT FROM NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT TO THE PRESENT HE HAS SEEN BLACK QUITE INFREQUENTLY. GOLD BELIEVES THAT BLACK DROPPED OUT OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND ALSO BELIEVES THAT IT WAS THE SOVIETS WHO DROPPED BLACK RATHER THAN BLACK DROPPING THE SOVIETS.

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GOLD ALSO BELIEVES THAT IT WAS THE STATEMENTS OF WHITTAKER CHAMBERS WHICH WERE THE CAUSE OF BLACK BEING DROPPED BY THE SOVIETS. GOLD SAID THAT BLACK TOLD HIM THAT WHITTAKER CHAMBERS KNEW BLACK WELL AND KNEW HIM UNDER THE NAME OF THOMAS BLACK. NO ADDITIONAL PHOTOS OF BLACK WILL BE FORWARDED TO BALTIMORE AT THIS TIME TO BE EXHIBITED TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. THIS WILL BE DEFERRED UNTIL BLACK IS QUESTIONED IN DETAIL RELATIVE TO HIS ASSOCIATION WITH CHAMBERS.

CORNELIUS

ACK AND PLS HOLD FOR CORRECTIONS

EUPH R 2 NK CEG

PH R 18 WA LEA

cc: Mr. Belmont
Mr. Lamphre

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 15 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH 60 NEWARK 5 PHILA 3 FROM NEW YORK

15

11-37 P

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. DUN AND BRADSTREET REPORTS FOLLOWING INFO.
FINE ORGANIES, INC. HAS OPERATED SINCE THIRTYNINE ON A FINANCIALLY PRO-
GRESSIVE BASIS AND HAS OPERATED PROFITABLY. NET TANGIBLE WORTH ESTIMATED
IN FORTYNINE AS ONE HUNDRED EIGHTYTHREE THOUSAND DOLLARS. F.O. INC. HAS
FORTYFIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF CAPITAL STOCK OUTSTANDING OF WHICH
NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR AND ERNEST SEGESSEMAN EACH OWN HALF. NICHOLAS M.
MOLNAR BORN NINETEEN ZERO ONE IN HUNGARY, ENTERED U. S. IN NINETEEN
TWENTYONE, OBTAINED M. S. AND PH. D DEGREES AT COOPER UNION AND FORDHAM U.
RESPECTIVELY. ENTERED BUSINESS IN TWENTYSEVEN IN NYC OPERATING AS
MOLNAR LABORATORIES. MOLNAR LABORATORIES STILL OPERATES AS CONSULTING
AND ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS. MOLNAR STARTED THE TWO ONE ONE EAST NINETEENTH
STREET CORPORATION IN THIRTYTHREE AND FINE ORGANIES, INC. THIRTYNINE.
ERNEST SEGESSEMAN BORN NINETEEN ZERO ONE IN SWITZERLAND, HELPED ORGANIZE
FINE ORGANIES. IN OCTOBER FORTYSIX MOLNAR AND SEGESSEMAN JOINTLY
PURCHASED A ONE STORY BUILDING IN BALCKLICK, PA. WHERE F. O. INC.
CONDUCTED A BRANCH PLANT UNTIL IT WAS SOLD IN FORTYEIGHT. MOLNAR AND
SEGESSEMAN ALSO ORGANIZED CIFO, INC. CHARTERED UNDER PA. LAWA SEPTEMBER

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EIGHTEEN, FORTYSIX. CIFO WAS LOCATED IN BLACKLICK, PA. BUT DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS IN MARCH FORTYEIGHT. F. O. INC. HAD A LAB AT SIX TWO FIVE GREENWICH ST., N.Y. PRIOR TO MOVING ITS LAB TO LODI, N.J. IN NOVEMBER FORTYFOUR. F.O. INC. ALSO HAD STORAGE FACILITIES AT TWO ZERO FOUR DASH TWO ZERO EIGHT EAST TWENTYSEVENTH ST., N.Y.C. UNTIL FORTYEIGHT. F.O. EMPLOYS TWENTYFIVE PERSONS IN LODI, N.J. AND SEVEN PERSONS IN N.Y. MOVIE OF SUBJ EXHIBITED TO LOUIS BUDENZ JUNE FIFTEEN WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

SCHEIDT

WA ACK AND MLD

NK AND PH ACK AND DISC

WA NYC R -60 WA LRP

NK NY R 5 NK CEG

PH NY R 3 PH EMC

cc Mr. Langhorne

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JUN 16 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

Handwritten signature: [illegible]

WASHINGTON 3 NEW YORK 1 NEWARK 2 BALTIMORE 1 FROM PHILA 6-18-50-1-45 AM
DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. BLACK INTERVIEWED THIS DATE PHILA OFFICE.
DICTATED SIGNED STATEMENT RE MISPRISON OF FELONY PERTINENT
PORTIONS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS. QUOTE. IN THE EARLY PART OF FEBRUARY
NINETEEN FIFTY AFTER THE ARREST OF FUCHS, HARRY GOLD CALLED ME ON THE
TELEPHONE AND SAID THAT IT WAS QUITE URGENT THAT HE SEE ME. I TOLD
GOLD THAT I HAD SOME PERSONAL BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF IN THE DOWN
TOWN SECTION AND THAT I WOULD MEET HIM IN THE BROAD STREET STATION.
FROM THERE WE WALKED TO TWO ONE TWO FOUR SPRUCE ST. WHERE I WAS TO
PICK UP A RADIO WHICH BELONGED TO ME. DURING THIS WALK HARRY TOLD
ME THAT HE HAD BEEN FUCHS-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND THAT IF ANYTHING
SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM HE WANTED ME TOO LOOK AFTER HIS FATHER AND
BROTHER. AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL HIS EXACT WORDS WERE QUOTE THE
FBI IS LOOKING FOR FUCH-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND I AM THAT MAN . UNQUOTE.
HE SAID THAT IF HE SHOULD BE CAUGHT HE WAS GOING TO TAKE AN OVERDOSE
OF SLEEPING TABLETS WHICH HE HAD ACQUIRED, THIS BEING THE EASIEST
WAY OUT. I TRIED TO PERSUADE HIM FROM COMMITTING SUICIDE. I
ACCOMPLISHED MY PERSONAL BUSINESS AND WE SEPARATED. I HAD NO
REASON TO DISBELIEVE HARRY-S STATEMENT BECAUSE I DID KNOW THAT
HE TRAVELED TO NY OCCASIONALLY WITHOUT ANY APPARENT BUSINESS, AND I
ALSO KNEW THAT HE MADE A TRIP TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO SOME TIME
BEFORE THE TEST ATOMIC BOMB WAS EXPLODED IN NEW MEXICO. I KNOW THIS

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BECAUSE HE TELEPHONED ME FROM A HOTEL IN ALBUQUERQUE AND ASKED ME TO TELEGRAPH HIM SOME FUNDS. I WAS SHORT OF FUNDS MYSELF AT THE TIME AND SO I DID NOT COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST. I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF THE NATURE OF HIS BUSINESS IN NEW MEXICO, BUT I PRESUMED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY WITH REFERENCE TO EMPLOYMENT. THE TELEPHONE CALL REFERRED TO WAS MADE IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING TO MY HOME ADDRESS AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, N. J., TELEPHONE NO. MARKET THREE DASH FIVE SEVEN ONE NAUGHT. I HAVE NEVER PREVIOUSLY GIVEN THE INFO OF HARRY-S COMPLICITY TO ANYONE UP UNTIL THIS TIME. I FULLY REALIZE THAT I HAD CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CITIZEN TO INFORM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES OF HIS STATEMENT. THE REASON THAT I DID NOT INFORM ANYONE WAS THAT I WAS FRANKLY VERY SCARED AT THE TIME AND I DID NOT WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED IF IT COULD BE AVOIDED. ALSO, IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION TO BE FORCED TO MAKE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD GIVE ANY INFORMATION TOLD TO ME IN CONFIDENCE WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE A FRIEND OF VERY LONG STANDING. IN RETROSPECT I VERY DEEPLY REGRET THAT I DID NOT AT THAT TIME COME FORWARD WITH THE INFORMATION WHICH WOULD HAVE AIDED IN HARRY-S APPREHENSION. THE SUM OF MONEY REQUESTED BY HARRY GOLD FROM ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. PARENTHESIS REFERRED TO ABOVE PARENTHESIS WAS FIFTY DOLLARS, AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL. I KNEW FROM THE NEWSPAPERS THAT KLAUSS FUCHES HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN ENGLAND FOR TRANSMISSION OF A BOMB SECRETS TO THE SOVIET UNION. HARRY GOLD TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN THE CONTACT MAN BETWEEN FUCHES AND A SOVIET AGENT, IN TRANSMITTING

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✓ THESE SECRETS. END QUOTE. BLACK STATES HE AND FERDINAND P. HELLER
IN NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE OR THIRTYFOUR WANTED TO GO TO RUSSIA AS
✓ CHEMISTS AND CONTACTS G. OVAKIMIAN OF ANTORG IN NYC. LATTER REQUESTED
DEMONSTRATION OF ABILITY RESULTING IN SEVERAL PRE ARRANGED MEETINGS
✓ PROVIDING ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS SET FORTH BY OVAKIMIAN. HELLER LATER
DROPPED OUT OF PICTURE, DISINTERESTED. AS PRELIMINARY TO TRIP TO
RUSSIA, OVAKIMIAN SUGGESTED BLACK WORK FOR ANTORG ON CONSULTING
BASIS, AND AS A CP MEMBER IT WAS BLACK-S DUTY TO FURTHER THE CAUSE
OF COMMUNISM IN USA. OFFERS OF COMPENSATION WERE REJECTED BY BLACK.
✓ SUBSEQUENTLY BLACK WAS INTRODUCED TO ONE PAUL PETERSEN AND IN NINETEEN
THIRTYFOUR AND THIRTYFIVE PROVIDING TECHNICAL INFO, ACCEPTING GIFTS OF
BOOKS, BUT NO MONEY. BLACK EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE ARRANGEMENT
AND DISLIKE FOR ESPIONAGE WORK. PETERSEN TOLD BLACK THIS WAS CON-
SULTING WORK, NOT ESPIONAGE, AND CONTINUE MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR AN
ADDITIONAL YEAR. BLACK WAS REQUESTED TO ACT AS COURIER BUT REFUSED
AND WAS ACCUSED BY PETERSEN OF BEING A TRAITOR AND WAS THREATENED.
BLACK FAILED TO KEEP SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS, AND FOLLOWING THE MOSCOW
TRIALS, DROPPED OUT OF CP TO AVOID CONTACT WITH COMMUNIST SOVIET
AGENTS AND THE LIKE. HE THEN JOINED THE TROTSKYITES IN NEWARK, NJ,
BECAUSE THEY MAINTAINED AN INTEREST IN SOCIALISM YET FOUGHT THE
SOVIET SYSTEM. PETERSEN, WHEN TOLD OF BLACK-S JOINING THE TROTSKYITES
BECAME ANGRY AND THROUGH VEILED THREATS FORCED ANOTHER MEETING.
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PETERSEN TOLD BLACK HE WOULD BE OF MORE VALUE TO RUSSIA INSIDE THE
TROTSKY MOVEMENT THAN IN TECHNICAL WORK AND REQUESTED NAMES, ADDRESSES,
 OF TROTSKY MEMBERS. BLACK STATES TO PACIFY PETERSEN HE PROVIDED
LIST OF NAMES, ADDRESSES, SUPPOSEDLY OF SWP MEMBERS BUT ACTUALLY ALL
FICTITIOUS. EARLY NINETEEN THIRTY SIX BLACK-S CONTACT PETERSEN LEFT
 COUNTRY AND INTRODUCED HIM TO NEW CONTACT GEORGE IN A NY RESTAURANT.
 PETERSEN DESCRIBED AS SHORT, SWARTHY, GRAYING HAIR, SLAVIC APPEARANCE,
 HUNDRED EIGHTY OR HUNDRED NINETY LBS., BROAD FACE, PEASANT TYPE.

CLAIMED TO BE IN COUNTRY ON SWEDISH PASSPORT BUT OBVIOUSLY NOT
 SWEDISH ABOUT FORTY FIVE YEARS OLD. GEORGE ABOUT THIRTY FIVE, SIX
 FEET. THIN, VERY SLIGHT BUILD, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY OR ONE HUNDRED
 SIXTY LBS., YELLOWISH BLONDE HAIR, LIGHT BLUE EYES, NORDIC TYPE,
 PROBABLY GERMAN WITH DEFINITE ACCENT BELIEVED GERMAN. GEORGE-S
 INTEREST WAS ONLY IN TROTSKYITE ACTIVITIES WHICH INFO BLACK CLAIMS
 HE CONSISTENTLY SIDESTEPED. ON MARCH TEN, THIRTY EIGHT BLACK
 HOSPITALIZED FOR TOTAL OF FIVE MONTHS FOLLOWING INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT.
 VISITED BY HARRY GOLD AT HOSP. AND GOLD TOLD HIM SOMEBODY WANTED
 TO KNOW WHERE HE WAS. WHILE AT HOSP. ALSO VISITED BY MAN WHO INTRO-
 DUCED HIMSELF AS DR. ROBERT SWARTZ OR SCHWARTZ. BLACK BELIEVES THIS
 MAN ACTUALLY AN M. D. PROBABLY AMTORG OR RUSSIAN RED CROSS EMPLOYEE.
 DESCRIBES SELF AS FRIEND OF GEORGE-S BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION.
 ASKED IF BLACK WAS ALL RIGHT AND IF NEEDED MONEY. FOLLOWING THIS
CONTACT, BLACK NEVER SAW GEORGE AGAIN. DR. SWARTZ INTERESTED IN
 BLACK-S SPEEDY RECOVERY AND INFLUENCED HIM TO CONSULT DERMATOLOGIST.

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✓ FOLLOWING RELEASE FROM HOSP. SWARTZ PROPOSED THAT BLACK GO TO MEXICO CITY, INGRATIAE HIMSELF WITH THE TROTSKY FAMILY AND ATTEMPT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE TROTSKY HOUSEHOLD, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SWARTZ WITH COMPLETE INFO REGARDING HABITS, LAYOUT, ETC. SWARTZ OFFERED TO PAY ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY NECESSARY PLUS ALL EXPENSES AND SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING SOVIET UNION EMPLOYEES COULD DO WAS TO GET INFO REGARDING TROTSKY HOUSEHOLD. BLACK REFUSED THIS ASSIGNMENT AS BEING NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR PRACTICAL. ^{RA} FOLLOWING TROTSKY-S ASSASSINATION, BLACK SAW DR. SWARTZ ONCE MORE AND WHEN QUESTIONED BY BLACK ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION, DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF IT BUT SAID IT WAS NECESSARY POLITICALLY. FOLLOWING BLACK-S RETURN TO WORK IN EARLY THIRTY NINE HE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM JOHN WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS FRIEND OF DR. SWARTZ, AND ARRANGED MEET. JOHN DESCRIBED AS THIN, FIVE FEET SEVEN, IN EARLY THIRTIES, SLAVIC TYPE, BLACK HAIR, DEEP BROWN EYES, VERY DARK COMPLEXION. HE REQUESTED INFO RE TROTSKY MOVEMENT. BLACK MET JOHN TWO OR THREE TIMES THEN ARRANGED FOR BLACK TO MEET CONTACT NAMED JACK. JACK DESCRIBED AS CZECHOSLOVAKIAN SOLIDLY BUILT ABOUT FORTY YEARS, FIVE FT. EIGHT IN. WITH A WEAKNESS FOR BUYING SHOES WHICH STEMMED ACCORDING TO HIM, FROM A SHOELESS CHILDHOOD. IN CONTACTS WITH JACK DURING NINETEEN FORTY AND FORTYONE, JACK NEVER ABLE TO PASS SHOE STORE WITHOUT WINDOW SHOPPING. JACK TOLD BLACK TO FORGET TROTSKYITES AND GET TO MORE SERIOUS BUSINESS. INSTRUCTED BLACK TO GET JOB AT KELLEX, PHONETIC, A SUBSIDIARY OF KELLOG ENGINEERING CO. THIS PROBABLY ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYONE OR

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✓ FORTYTWO. JACK SAID SOMETHING BIG WAS UNDERWAY AT KELLEX. LATER, BLACK BELIEVES HE READ THAT KELLEX ASSOCIATED WITH MANHATTAN PROJECT. BLACK CLAIMS HE REPORTED TO JACK THAT HE HAD APPLIED FOR A JOB AT KELLEX AND THEN REJECTED, THOUGH ACTUALLY HE NEVER MADE APPLICATION. FOLLOWING THIS BLACK HAD NO CONTACT WITH SOVIET AGENTS FOR APPROX. A YEAR AND HE BELIEVES HE HAD SUCCEEDED IN DISGUSTING THEM WITH HIS LACK OF RESULTS. ABOUT A YEAR LATER THAN THE KELLEX CONTACT JACK TOLD BLACK HE WANTED INFO RE THE MANUFACTURE OF PENICILLIN AND THE TYPE OF MICRO ORGANISM USED. BLACK WROTE HIM A REPORT ON THE METHODS THEN IN USE. THIS REPORT CONCERNED BOTH THE SURFACE GROWTH METHOD AND THE SUBMERGED GROWTH METHOD. AT JACK-S REQUEST, BLACK OBTAINED A CULTURE OF PENICILLIUM NOTATUM FROM THE AMERICAN TYPE CULTURE COLLECTION, GEORGETOWN UNIV. BLACK ALSO GAVE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CARE OF THIS CULTURE, THE TYPE OF CULTURE MEDIA TO BE USED IN TRANSPLANTING. SUBSEQUENTLY, JACK TOLD BLACK THAT THE CULTURE HAD BEEN SENT TO THE SOVIET UNION AND HAD ARRIVED SAFELY. BLACK REMEMBERS THAT THIS WAS AT THE TIME THE U S WAS IN THE WAR. HE SAW NO MORE OF JACK UNTIL ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT AT WHICH TIME BLACK RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM A MAN WHO GAVE THE NAME WATKINS. BLACK IS CERTAIN FROM THE VOICE AND ACCENT THAT WATKINS WAS JACK. A MEET WAS ARRANGED IN FRONT OF MACY-S IN NY. JACK TOLD HIM HE WANTED TO

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REESTABLISH CONTACT WITH BLACK AND HAVE BLACK DO WORK FOR THE SOVIET UNION. ALSO, TO FIND OUT IF BLACK WAS QUOTE POLITICALLY OK UNQUOTE. BLACK TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD DO LEGITIMATE CONSULTING WORK FOR AMTORG BUT WOULD NOT DO ESPIONAGE WORK AND WAS NOT POLITICALLY OK FROM JACK-S STANDPOINT. ON THE MONDAY PRECEDING HARRY GOLD-S ARREST, BLACK WAS TOLD AT HIS PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT THAT THERE HAD BEEN A TELEPHONECALL FOR HIM FROM A PERSON NAMED WATKINS BUT BLACK DID NOT GET THE MESSAGE NOR DID WATKINS EVER CALL AGAIN. ONLY TRIP TO CHICAGO BLACK ADMITS IS TO THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY CONVENTION IN NINETEEN THIRTYNINE. REGARDING TRIP TO DELAWARE DESCRIBED BY GOLD, BLACK RELATES THE FOLLOWING - HE DID NOT GO TO DELAWARE BUT PROBABLY ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYFOUR OR FORTYFIVE WAS INSTRUCTED BY JACK TO MEET A MAN AT PA. STATION IN NEWARK. THIS MAN WOULD BE CARRYING A MAGAZINE AND WEARING CERTAIN COLOR TIE. MAN DESCRIBED AS EMPLOYEE HERCULES POWDER CO. ^{WILLIAM TAPLER} FIRST NAME BELIEVED WILLIAM, CHEMIST BY TRADE, BUT WORKING AS TECHNICAL MAN ON ROAD. WIFE OWNED HOME IN VERONA OR CALDWELL, N. J., AND WILLIAM LIVED DURING WEEK WITH SISTER IN WILMINGTON, DEL. WILLIAM WAS FRIEND OF TECHNICAL LIBRARIAN AT HERCULES POWDER. ABOUT FORTYFIVE YEARS OLD, TALL, GRAYING HAIR, THIN FEATURES, GLASSES. JACK SAID SOVIETS HAD PURCHASED TECHNICAL INFO FROM WILLIAM IN PAST AND WANTED TO REESTABLISH CONTACT. AT MEETING, WILLIAM REFUSED ANY INFO UNTIL HE HAD BEEN PAID FOR PREVIOUS INFO.

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BLACK MADE FURTHER CONTACT WITH JACK WHO PUT SEVERAL BILLS IN AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN ENVELOPE AND INSTRUCTED BLACK TO DELIVER IT TO WILLIAM WITH THE COMMENT THAT WILLIAM-S SERVICES WERE WORTH NO MORE. BLACK DELIVERED THIS MONEY AND JACK SENT MESSAGE AND NEVER SAW WILLIAM AGAIN. BLACK CLAIMS THAT WHEN SOVIET CONTACTS PUT HEAVY PRESSURE ON HIM FOR INFO HE WOULD GET CHEMICAL REFERENCES FROM LIBRARY, WRITE THEM UP AND TURN THEM OVER TO CONTACT. HE RECALLS THAT HE ONCE LOOKED UP SOMETHING ON THE MANUFACTURE OF DISINFECTANTS. HE DESCRIBED THIS AS BEING IN THE NATURE OF CONSULTING WORK. BLACK DESCRIBES A VISIT TO PHILA. AT A DATE HE IS UNABLE TO RECALL WHICH HE MADE ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM DR. SWARTZ. ON THIS VISIT HE CONTACTED DR. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORFF, HEAD OF DEPT. OF BACTERIOLOGY, UNIV. OF PA. DR. FLOSDORFF HAD DEVELOPED PROCESS FOR FREEZE DRYING AND HAD SOLD SOME OF HIS EQUIPMENT TO AMTORG. BLACK WAS INSTRUCTED TO FIND OUT WHETHER DR. FLOSDORFF WOULD AGAIN DEAL WITH AMTORG ON A CONSULTING BASIS. HE SAID HE WOULD AND BLACK SO REPORTED TO DR. SWARTZ. FLOSDORFF PRESENTLY EMPLOYED BY STOKES MFG. CO. AND BLACK EXPRESS OPINION THAT HIS CONTACT WITH AMTORG WAS ENTIRELY LEGITIMATE. BLACK DESCRIBED MORRELL DOUGHERTY AS A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF HARRY GOLD FOR VERY MANY YEARS WITH WHOM GOLD ONCE CONSIDERED GOING INTO THE CONSULTING CHEMIST BUSINESS. BLACK BELIEVES DOUGHERTY IN NO WAY INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE AND BELIEVES HIM TO BE ANTI SOVIET. ERNEST SEGESSEMAN FOR SEVERAL YEARS SHARED APARTMENT WITH BLACK AND GOT BLACK A JOB WITH NATL OIL COMPANY. SEGESSEMAN DURING DEPRESSION WAS MILD SYMPATHIZER OF CP BUT NEVER JOINED AND TO BLACK-S KNOWLEDGE, NEVER INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE NICHOLAS MOLNAR, PRESIDENT OF FINE ORGANICS MAY HAVE BEEN MILD CP

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PAGE TEN

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CLASSIFIED.

Handled See Phil 6-19-50 7:07 PM

CORNELIUS

CORR - THIS SHOULD BE 2 TO NEW YORK

ALL ACK IN ORDER AND DISC PLS

WA PH R -3 WQ WA LRP

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NY THIS SHD BE 2 JUST GAVE CORR ABOVE SRRY

PH R 2 NY JGH

NK PH R 2 NK CFK

BA PH R 1 BA RHS

ALL DISC PLS

*cc Mr Belmont
Mr Sampson*

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 16 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 3 NEW YORK 2 NEWARK 2 BALTIMORE 1 FROM PHILA
DIRECTOR AND SACS.....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP - R. BLACK INTERVIEWED THIS DATE PHILA OFFICE.
DICTATED SIGNED STATEMENT RE MISPRISON OF FELONY PERTINENT
PORTIONS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS. QUOTE. IN THE EARLY PART OF FEBRUARY
NINETEEN FIFTY AFTER THE ARREST OF FUCHS, HARRY GOLD CALLED ME ON THE
TELEPHONE AND SAID THAT IT WAS QUITE URGENT THAT HE SEE ME. I TOLD
GOLD THAT I HAD SOME PERSONAL BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF IN THE DOWN
TOWN SECTION AND THAT I WOULD MEET HIM IN THE BROAD STREET STATION.
FROM THERE WE WALKED TO TWO ONE TWO FOUR SPRUCE ST. WHERE I WAS TO
PICK UP A RADIO WHICH BELONGED TO ME. DURING THIS WALK HARRY TOLD
ME THAT HE HAD BEEN FUCHS-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND THAT IF ANYTHING
SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM HE WANTED ME TOO LOOK AFTER HIS FATHER AND
BROTHER. AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL HIS EXACT WORDS WERE QUOTE THE
FBI IS LOOKING FOR FUCHS-S AMERICAN CONTACT AND I AM THAT MAN. UNQUOTE
HE SAID THAT IF HE SHOULD BE CAUGHT HE WAS GOING TO TAKE AN OVERDOSE
OF SLEEPING TABLETS WHICH HE HAD ACQUIRED, THIS BEING THE EASIEST
WAY OUT. I TRIED TO PERSUADE HIM FROM COMMITTING SUICIDE. I
ACCOMPLISHED MY PERSONAL BUSINESS AND WE SEPARATED. I HAD NO
REASON TO DISBELIEVE HARRY-S STATEMENT BECAUSE I DID KNOW THAT
HE TRAVELED TO NY OCCASIONALLY WITHOUT ANY APPARENT BUSINESS, AND I
ALSO KNEW THAT HE MADE A TRIP TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO SOME TIME
BEFORE THE TEST ATOMIC BOMB WAS EXPLODED IN NEW MEXICO. I KNOW THIS

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PAGE TWO

BECAUSE HE TELEPHONED ME FROM A HOTEL IN ALBUQUERQUE AND ASKED ME TO TELEGRAPH HIM SOME FUNDS. I WAS SHORT OF FUNDS MYSELF AT THE TIME AND SO I DID NOT COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST. I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF THE NATURE OF HIS BUSINESS IN NEW MEXICO, BUT I PRESUMED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY WITH REFERENCE TO EMPLOYMENT. THE TELEPHONE CALL REFERRED TO WAS MADE IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING TO MY HOME ADDRESS AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, N. J., TELEPHONE NO. MARKET THREE DASH FIVE SEVEN ONE NAUGHT. I HAVE NEVER PREVIOUSLY GIVEN THE INFO OF HARRY-S COMPLICITY TO ANYONE UP UNTIL THIS TIME. I FULLY REALIZE THAT I HAD CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CITIZEN TO INFORM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES OF HIS STATEMENT. THE REASON THAT I DID NOT INFORM ANYONE WAS THAT I WAS FRANKLY VERY SCARED AT THE TIME AND I DID NOT WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED IF IT COULD BE AVOIDED. ALSO, IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION TO BE FORCED TO MAKE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD GIVE ANY INFORMATION TOLD TO ME IN CONFIDENCE WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE A FRIEND OF VERY LONG STANDING. IN RETROSPECT I VERY DEEPLY REGRET THAT I DID NOT AT THAT TIME COME FORWARD WITH THE INFORMATION WHICH WOULD HAVE AIDED IN HARRY-S APPREHENSION. THE SUM OF MONEY REQUESTED BY HARRY GOLD FROM ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. PARENTHESIS REFERRED TO ABOVE PARENTHESIS WAS FIFTY DOLLARS, AS NEARLY AS I CAN RECALL. I KNEW FROM THE NEWSPAPERS THAT KLAUS FUCHS HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN ENGLAND FOR TRANSMISSION OF A BOMB SECRETS TO THE SOVIET UNION. HARRY GOLD TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN THE CONTACT MAN BETWEEN FUCHS AND A SOVIET AGENT, IN TRANSMITTING

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PAGE THREE

THESE SECRETS. END QUOTE. BLACK STATES HE AND FERDINAND P. HELLER
IN NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE OR THIRTYFOUR WANTED TO GO TO RUSSIA AS
CHEMISTS AND CONTACTS G. OVAKIMIAN OF AMTORG IN NYC. LATTER REQUESTED
DEMONSTRATION OF ABILITY RESULTING IN SEVERAL PRE ARRANGED MEETINGS
PROVIDING ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS SET FORTH BY OVAKIMIAN. HELLER LATER
DROPPED OUT OF PICTURE, DISINTERESTED. AS PRELIMINARY TO TRIP TO
RUSSIA, OVAKIMIAN SUGGESTED BLACK WORK FOR AMTORG ON CONSULTING
BASIS, AND AS A CP MEMBER IT WAS BLACK-S DUTY TO FURTHER THE CAUSE
OF COMMUNISM IN USA. OFFERS OF COMPENSATION WERE REJECTED BY BLACK.
SUBSEQUENTLY BLACK WAS INTRODUCED TO ONE PAUL PETERSEN AND IN NINETEEN
THIRTYFOUR AND THIRTYFIVE PROVIDING TECHNICAL INFO, ACCEPTING GIFTS OF
BOOKS, BUT NO MONEY. BLACK EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE ARRANGEMENT
AND DISLIKE FOR ESPIONAGE WORK. PETERSEN TOLD BLACK THIS WAS CON-
SULTING WORK, NOT ESPIONAGE, AND CONTINUE MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR AN
ADDITIONAL YEAR. BLACK WAS REQUESTED TO ACT AS COURIER BUT REFUSED
AND WAS ACCUSED BY PETERSEN OF BEING A TRAITOR AND WAS THREATENED.
BLACK FAILED TO KEEP SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS, AND FOLLOWING THE MOSCOW
TRIALS, DROPPED OUT OF CP TO AVOID CONTACT WITH COMMUNIST SOVIET
AGENTS AND THE LIKE. HE THEN JOINED THE TROTSKYITES IN NEWARK, NJ,
BECAUSE THEY MAINTAINED AN INTEREST IN SOCIALISM YET FOUGHT THE
SOVIET SYSTEM. PETERSEN, WHEN TOLD OF BLACK-S JOINING THE TROTSKYITES
BECAME ANGRY AND THROUGH VEILED THREATS FORCED ANOTHER MEETING.
END PAGE THREE

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PAGE FOUR

PETERSEN TOLD BLACK HE WOULD BE OF MORE VALUE TO RUSSIA INSIDE THE TROTSKY MOVEMENT THAN IN TECHNICAL WORK AND REQUESTED NAMES, ADDRESSES, OF TROTSKY MEMBERS. BLACK STATES TO PACIFY PETERSON HE PROVIDED LIST OF NAMES, ADDRESSES, SUPPOSEDLY OF SUP MEMBERS BUT ACTUALLY ALL FICTITIOUS. EARLY NINETEEN THIRTY SIX BLACK-S CONTACT PETERSEN LEFT COUNTRY AND INTRODUCED HIM TO NEW CONTACT GEORGE IN A NY RESTAURANT. (3) PETERSEN DESCRIBED AS SHORT, SWARTHY, GRAYING HAIR, SLAVIC APPEARANCE, HUNDRED EIGHTY OR HUNDRED NINETY LBS., BROAD FACE, PEASANT TYPE. CLAIMED TO BE IN COUNTRY ON SWEDISH PASSPORT BUT OBVIOUSLY NOT SWEDISH ABOUT FORTY FIVE YEARS OLD. GEORGE ABOUT THIRTY FIVE, SIX FEET. THIN, VERY SLIGHT BUILD, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY OR ONE HUNDRED SIXTY LBS., YELLOWISH BLONDE HAIR, LIGHT BLUE EYES, NORDIC TYPE, PROBABLY GERMAN WITH DEFINITE ACCENT BELIEVED GERMAN. GEORGE-S INTEREST WAS ONLY IN TROTSKYITE ACTIVITIES WHICH INFO BLACK CLAIMS HE CONSISTENTLY SIDESTEPED. ON MARCH TEN, THIRTY EIGHT BLACK HOSPITALIZED FOR TOTAL OF FIVE MONTHS FOLLOWING INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT. VISITED BY HARRY GOLD AT HOSP. AND GOLD TOLD HIM SOMEBODY WANTED TO KNOW WHERE HE WAS. WHILE AT HOSP. ALSO VISITED BY MAN WHO INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS DR. ROBERT SWARTZ OR SCHWARTZ. BLACK BELIEVES THIS MAN ACTUALLY AN M. D. PROBABLY ANTORG OR RUSSIAN RED CROSS EMPLOYEE. DESCRIBES SELF AS FRIEND OF GEORGE-S BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION. ASKED IF BLACK WAS ALL RIGHT AND IF NEEDED MONEY. FOLLOWING THIS CONTACT, BLACK NEVER SAW GEORGE AGAIN. DR. SWARTZ INTERESTED IN BLACK-S SPEEDY RECOVERY AND INFLUENCED HIM TO CONSULT DERMATOLOGIST.

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FOLLOWING RELEASE FROM HOSP. SWARTZ PROPOSED THAT BLACK GO TO MEXICO (4)
CITY, INGRATIAE HIMSELF WITH THE TROTSKY FAMILY AND ATTEMPT TO
BECOME A MEMBER OF THE TROTSKY HOUSEHOLD, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SWARTZ
WITH COMPLETE INFO REGARDING HABITS, LAYOUT, ETC. SWARTZ OFFERED
TO PAY ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY NECESSARY PLUS ALL EXPENSES AND SAID THAT
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING SOVIET UNION EMPLOYEES COULD DO WAS TO GET
INFO REGARDING TROTSKY HOUSEHOLD. BLACK REFUSED THIS ASSIGNMENT AS
BEING NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR PRACTICAL. FOLLOWING TROTSKY-S ASSASSI-
NATION, BLACK SAW DR. SWARTZ ONCE MORE AND WHEN QUESTIONED BY BLACK
ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION, DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF IT BUT SAID IT WAS
NECESSARY POLITICALLY. FOLLOWING BLACK-S RETURN TO WORK IN EARLY (5)
THIRTY NINE HE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM JOHN WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS
FRIEND OF DR. SWARTZ, AND ARRANGED MEET. JOHN DESCRIBED AS THIN,
FIVE FEET SEVEN, IN EARLY THIRTIES, SLAVIC TYPE, BLACK HAIR, DEEP
BROWN EYES, VERY DARK COMPLEXION. HE REQUESTED INFO RE TROTSKY
MOVEMENT. BLACK MET JOHN TW OR THREE TIMES THEN ARRANGED FOR BLACK
TO MEET CONTACT NAMED JACK. JACK DESCRIBED AS CZECHOSLOVAKIAN
SOLIDLY BUILT ABOUT FORTY YEARS, FIVE FT. EIGHT IN. WITH A WEAKNESS
FOR BUYING SHOES WHICH STEMMED ACCORDING TO HIM, FROM A SHOELESS
CHILDHOOD. IN CONTACTS WITH JACK DURING NINETEEN FORTY AND FORTYONE,
JACK NEVER ABLE TO PASS SHOE STORE WITHOUT WINDOW SHOPPING. JACK TOLD
BLACK TO FORGET TROTSKYTES AND GET TO MORE SERIOUS BUSINESS.
INSTRUCTED BLACK TO GET JOB AT KELLEX, PHONETIC, A SUBSIDIARY OF
KELLOG ENGINEERING CO. THIS PROBABLY ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYONE OR

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PAGE SIX

FORTYTWO. JACK SAID SOMETHING BIG WAS UNDERWAY AT KELLEX. LATER, BLACK BELIEVES HE READ THAT KELLEX ASSOCIATED WITH MANHATTAN PROJECT. BLACK CLAIMS HE REPORTED TO JACK THAT HE HAD APPLIED FOR A JOB AT KELLEX AND THEN REJECTED, THOUGH ACTUALLY HE NEVER MADE APPLICATION. FOLLOWING THIS BLACK HAD NO CONTACT WITH SOVIET AGENTS FOR APPROX. A YEAR AND HE BELIEVES HE HAD SUCCEEDED IN DISGUSTING THEM WITH HIS LACK OF RESULTS. ABOUT A YEAR LATER THAN THE KELLEX CONTACT JACK TOLD BLACK HE WANTED INFO RE THE MANUFACTURE OF PENICILLIN AND THE TYPE OF MICRO ORGANISM USED. BLACK WROTE HIM A REPORT ON THE METHODS THEN IN USE. THIS REPORT CONCERNED BOTH THE SURFACE GROWTH METHOD AND THE SUBMERGED GROWTH METHOD. AT JACK-S REQUEST, BLACK OBTAINED A CULTURE OF PENICILLIUM NOTATUM FROM THE AMERICAN TYPE CULTURE COLLECTION, GEORGETOWN UNIV. BLACK ALSO GAVE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CARE OF THIS CULTURE, THE TYPE OF CULTURE MEDIA TO BE USED IN TRANSPLANTING. SUBSEQUENTLY, JACK TOLD BLACK THAT THE CULTURE HAD BEEN SENT TO THE SOVIET UNION AND HAD ARRIVED SAFELY. BLACK REMEMBERS THAT THIS WAS AT THE TIME THE U S WAS IN THE WAR. HE SAW NO MORE OF JACK UNTIL ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT AT WHICH TIME BLACK RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM A MAN WHO GAVE THE NAME WATKINS. BLACK IS CERTAIN FROM THE VOICE AND ACCENT THAT WATKINS WAS JACK. A MEET WAS ARRANGED IN FRONT OF MACY-S IN NY. JACK TOLD HIM HE WANTED TO

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REESTABLISH CONTACT WITH BLACK AND HAVE BLACK DO WORK FOR THE SOVIET UNION. ALSO, TO FIND OUT IF BLACK WAS QUOTE POLITICALLY OK UNQUOTE. BLACK TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD DO LEGITIMATE CONSULTING WORK FOR AMTORG BUT WOULD NOT DO ESPIONAGE WORK AND WAS NOT POLITICALLY OK FROM JACK-S STANDPOINT. ON THE MONDAY PRECEDING HARRY GOLD-S ARREST, BLACK WAS TOLD AT HIS PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT THAT THERE HAD BEEN A TELEPHONE CALL FOR HIM FROM A PERSON NAMED WATKINS BUT BLACK DID NOT GET THE MESSAGE NOR DID WATKINS EVER CALL AGAIN. ONLY TRIP TO CHICAGO BLACK ADMITS IS TO THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY CONVENTION IN NINETEEN THIRTYNINE. REGARDING TRIP TO DELAWARE DESCRIBED BY GOLD, BLACK RELATES THE FOLLOWING - HE DID NOT GO TO DELAWARE BUT PROBABLY ABOUT NINETEEN FORTYFOUR OR FORTYFIVE WAS INSTRUCTED BY JACK TO MEET A MAN AT PA. STATION IN NEWARK. THIS MAN WOULD BE CARRYING A MAGAZINE AND WEARING CERTAIN COLOR TIE. MAN DESCRIBED AS EMPLOYEE HERCULES POWDER CO. FIRST NAME BELIEVED WILLIAM, CHEMIST BY TRADE, BUT WORKING AS TECHNICAL MAN ON ROAD. WIFE OWNED HOME IN VERONA OR CALDWELL, N. J., AND WILLIAM LIVED DURING WEEK WITH SISTER IN WILMINGTON, DEL. WILLIAM WAS FRIEND OF TECHNICAL LIBRARIAN AT HERCULES POWDER. ABOUT FORTYFIVE YEARS OLD, TALL, GRAYING HAIR, THIN FEATURES, GLASSES. JACK SAID SOVIETS HAD PURCHASED TECHNICAL INFO FROM WILLIAM IN PAST AND WANTED TO REESTABLISH CONTACT. AT MEETING, WILLIAM REFUSED ANY INFO UNTIL HE HAD BEEN PAID FOR PREVIOUS INFO.

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BLACK MADE FURTHER CONTACT WITH JACK WHO PUT SEVERAL BILLS IN AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN ENVELOPE AND INSTRUCTED BLACK TO DELIVER IT TO WILLIAM WITH THE COMMENT THAT WILLIAM-S SERVICES WERE WORTH NO MORE. BLACK DELIVERED THIS MONEY AND JACK SENT MESSAGE AND NEVER SAW WILLIAM AGAIN. BLACK CLAIMS THAT WHEN SOVIET CONTACTS PUT HEAVY PRESSURE ON HIM FOR INFO HE WOULD GET CHEMICAL REFERENCES FROM LIBRARY, WRITE THEM UP AND TURN THEM OVER TO CONTACT. HE RECALLS THAT HE ONCE LOOKED UP SOMETHING ON THE MANUFACTURE OF DISINFECTANTS. HE DESCRIBED THIS AS BEING IN THE NATURE OF CONSULTING WORK. BLACK DESCRIBES A VISIT TO PHILA. AT A DATE HE IS UNABLE TO RECALL WHICH HE MADE ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM DR. SWARTZ. ON THIS VISIT HE CONTACTED DR. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORFF, HEAD OF DEPT. OF BACTERIOLOGY, UNIV. OF PA. DR. FLOSDORFF HAD DEVELOPED PROCESS FOR FREEZE DRYING AND HAD SOLD SOME OF HIS EQUIPMENT TO AMTORG. BLACK WAS INSTRUCTED TO FIND OUT WHETHER DR. FLOSDORFF WOULD AGAIN DEAL WITH AMTORG ON A CONSULTING BASIS. HE SAID HE WOULD AND BLACK SO REPORTED TO DR. SWARTZ. FLOSDORFF PRESENTLY EMPLOYED BY STOKES MFG. CO. AND BLACK EXPRESS OPINION THAT HIS CONTACT WITH AMTORG WAS ENTIRELY LEGITIMATE. BLACK DESCRIBED MORRELL DOUGHERTY AS A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF HARRY GOLD FOR VERY MANY YEARS WITH WHOM GOLD ONCE CONSIDERED GOING INTO THE CONSULTING CHEMIST BUSINESS. BLACK BELIEVES DOUGHERTY IN NO WAY INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE AND BELIEVES HIM TO BE ANTI SOVIET. ERNEST SEGESSEMAN FOR SEVERAL YEARS SHARED APARTMENT WITH BLACK AND GOT BLACK A JOB WITH NATL OIL COMPANY. SEGESSEMAN DURING DEPRESSION WAS MILD SYMPATHIZER OF CP BUT NEVER JOINED AND TO BLACK-S KNOWLEDGE, NEVER INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE. NICHOLAS MOLNAR, PRESIDENT OF FINE ORGANICS MAY HAVE BEEN MILD CP

END PAGE EIGHT

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PAGE NINE

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ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

CONF 3 STNS

WASHINGTON 13 PHILA. 2 NEWARK 3 FROM NEW YORK 16 3-PM A
DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R. RE PHILA. TELEPHONE CALL TO NEW YORK SIX
FIFTEEN, PM JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT AND ASSOCIATES
/ OF SUBJECT AT FINE ORGANICS INC., CHEMICAL FIRM, NEW YORK CITY.
✓ NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR, CO-OWNER OF FINE ORGANICS, INTERVIEWED NIGHT
OF JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY, AND ADVISED AS FOLLOWS....HE BECAME AC-
QUAINTED WITH SUBJECT APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN YEARS AGO THROUGH
✓ ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, MOLNAR-S PRESENT PARTNER IN FINE ORGANICS. AT
TIME MOLNAR FIRST MET SUBJECT, SEGESSEMAN AND SUBJECT WERE EMPLOYED
AT NATIONAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY, NOW KNOWN AS NOPCO, HARRISON,
NEW JERSEY. SEGESSEMAN AND SUBJECT ALSO RESIDED IN SAME APARTMENT
HOUSE IN NEWARK, N.J. FOR SEVERAL YEARS. ON OCCASIONS THAT MOLNAR
VISITED SEGESSEMAN IN NEWARK APARTMENT HE ALSO VISITED BLACK
APARTMENT THERE. MOLNAR CHARACTERIZES BLACK AS CAREFREE, SHABBY
IN DRESS AND ECCENTRIC IN THAT SUBJECT WAS FOND OF ANIMALS AND KEPT
MICE AND A CROW IN HOME. BLACK ALSO HAD SOME "STRANGE" MEN
LIVING WITH HIM WHOM MOLNAR DESCRIBED AS "DOWN-TRODDEN INTELLECTUAL
TYPE" /IDENTITIES UNKNOWN/. MOLNAR PROFFESSES NO KNOWLEDGE OF SUB-

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JECT-S ACTIVITIES, CONTACTS OR ASSOCIATIONS ALTHOUGH HE BELIEVES SUBJECT IS LIBERAL MINDED BUT DEFINITELY NOT COMMUNIST. SUBJECT, / A BACTERIOLOGIST EMPLOYED BY FINE ORGANICS IN FORTYTHREE FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS IN CONNECTION WITH MANUFACTURE OF A DISINFECTANT. SUBJECT LEFT EMPLOYMENT AT COMPLETION OF THIS WORK. MOLNAR / ADVISES SUBJECT AND SEGESSEMAN ACQUAINTED WITH HARRY GOLD BUT HAS NO KNOWLEDGE AS TO HOW THEIR ACQUAINTANCE AROSE. MOLNAR DENIES HE KNOWS GOLD. IS OF OPINION SEGESSEMAN IN BETTER POSITION TO FURNISH INFORMATION RE SUBJECT. SEGESSEMAN RESIDES ONE SIX FIVE DASH ONE TWO STREET, WOODRIDGE, N.J., TELEPHONE NUMBER RUTHERFORD TWO DASH TWO NAUGHT SIX FIVE M. SEGESSEMAN CAN BE REACHED ON JUNE SIXTEEN AT FINE ORGANICS PLANT, LODI, N.J., TELEPHONE NUMBER GREGORY THREE DASH TWO TWO ONE ONE. NEWARK REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW SEGESSEMAN RE BLACK-S ACTIVITIES, CONTACTS AND ASSOCIATIONS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME ON JUNE SIXTEEN, FIFTY BEFORE SEGESSEMAN ^H HAS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SAME WITH MOLNAR. IN INTERVIEW WITH SEGESSEMAN IDENTITY OF MOLNAR SHOULD BE PROTECTED. LETTER FOLLOWS.

SCHEIDT

HLD PSL

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cc Mr Langley

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 PHILA 1 FROM NEWARK 16 3-31AM
DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, PAUL A. DITTMAN, AND
GOTTFRIED ZIEGLER NOT AT THEIR HOMES OR PLACES OF BUSINESS LAST NIGHT.
EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW UNPRODUCTIVE. ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE
EARLY AM TODAY TO INTERVIEW ABOVE PERSONS. NEW YORK ADVISED "WAIVER
OF SEARCH" OBTAINED FROM JACOB FASS WHO CLAIMED TO BE SOLE OWNER OF
SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY, ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON,
N.J. SEARCH OF THESE PREMISES WILL BE CONDUCTED TODAY UPON ARRIVAL OF
FASS. SEARCH OF BLACK-S PERSONAL BELONGINGS IN WAREHOUSE WILL BE CON-
DUCTED UPON RECEIPT OF WAIVER FROM PHILA. SURVEILLANCE BEING MAINTAINED
ON SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY UNTIL SEARCH CONDUCTED.

MCKEE

END AND ACK IN ORDER

W- WA NK R -1 WA LRP

NY NK R 1 NYC

PH NK R 1 PH AAB

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 16 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
11-43 AM	

WASHINGTON AND WASH FIELD 2 PHILA 2 NY 2 FROM NEWARK

16

DIRECTOR AND SACS WASH FIELD, PHILA, NEW YORK, ATLANTA.....URGENT.....

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS, TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK AND DOC.

ESPIONAGE - R. FOR THE INFO OF THE ATLANTA OFFICE, A STATEMENT HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM HARRY GOLD AT PHILADELPHIA TO THE EFFECT THAT BLACK WAS ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES IN EARLY FORTIES. BLACK PRESENTLY BEING INTERVIEWED BY PHILADELPHIA OFFICE AND HAS ADMITTED KNOWLEDGE OF GOLD-S ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AND ADVISED BLACK SOUGHT TO ACT AS CONSULTANT FOR THE SOVIET UNION. NEWARK HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT DURING NINETEEN TWENTYNINE AND NINETEEN THIRTY WHILE EMPLOYED BY THE AMERICAN CYANAMID CO. LINDEN, NJ, BLACK WAS FRIENDLY WITH ONE THOMAS FUESS WHO HAD FORMERLY LIVED IN PLAINFIELD, NJ, AND IS NOW CONNECTED WITH JOHNS-MANVILLE, ATLANTA, GA. ATLANTA WILL INTERVIEW FUESS REGARDING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH BLACK AND DETERMINE ALL BACKGROUND INFO. FUESS CAN FURNISH CONCERNING BLACK. EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING REQUESTED.

SUTEL ABOVE OFFICES.

MC KEE

LA I O PLS

WA NK R 2 WA DCL

PH NK R 2 PH MOB

NY NK R2 NY GAF

ALL OFFICES

AT WILL BE ADVISED.

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cc Mr. Mohr
JAG

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 16 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

5:50 PM

WASHINGTON 12 AND PHILADELPHIA 5 FROM NEWARK

16

DIRECTOR AND SAC

U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS. ESPIONAGE DASH R. GOTTFRIED ZIEGLER, FIVE THREE FIVE LEXINGTON AVE., CLIFTON, NJ, INTERVIEWED AM TODAY. ZIEGLER ADVISED HE OWNS PREMISES AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON, NJ, WHICH HE RENTS TO JACOB FASS OF THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO ZIEGLER STATED THAT FASS HAS INDICATED IN CONVERSATIONS THAT THOMAS L. BLACK WAS A PARTNER IN THIS BUSINESS. FASS PAID ZIEGLER ON HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ON MAY TEN LAST FOR THREE MONTHS RENT, MAY THROU JULY, NINETEEN FIFTY WHICH WAS FIRST PAYMENT RECEIVED ON A MONTH TO MONTH TENANCY PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED THRU PAUL A. DITTMAN, AN ASSOCIATE OF BOTH FASS AND BLACK, ACCORDING TO ZIEGLER. ZIEGLER SAYS HE HAS KNOWN DITTMAN FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS AND WAS INTRODUCED TO BOTH FASS AND BLACK IN OCTOBER, NINETEEN FORTYNINE BY DITTMAN WHO ADVISED FASS AND BLACK WERE LOOKING FOR A SMALL BUILDING NEAR PATERSON IN WHICH TO OPERATE THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. ZIEGLER AT THAT TIME AGREED TO CONSTRUCT A BUILDING WHICH IS ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATERSON. DITTMAN TOLD ZIEGLER THAT FASS AND BLACK WERE RELIABLE AND OFFERED TO LOAN ZIEGLER THE MONEY TO CONSTRUCT THE BUILDING BUT ZIEGLER DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH. ZIEGLER STATES SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. MANUFACTURES A COMPOUND USED TO CONDITION WATER FOR BOILERS. ZIEGLER

END OF PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

STATED THAT DITTMAN HAD NO INTEREST IN THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO.
EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT THE SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. MANUFACTURED HIS PRODUCT
FOR HIM. DITTMAN EMPLOYS ONE SALESMAN NAMED KUNKEL WHO LIVES IN PATERSON,
NJ. ZIEGLER CLAIMS HE HAS MET BLACK ON ONLY THREE WEEKENDS AT THE
PLANT IN PATERSON.

MC KEE

WA ND PH ACK AND DISC PLS

WA NK R 12 WA WJR

PH NK F NK R5 PH MEM C

65-59181-116

cc: Mr. Lamphre

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : C. E. Hennrich

DATE: June 17, 1950

FROM : A. R. BelmontSUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
Tracy	_____
Harbo	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

At 6:30 p.m. on June 16, 1950, I instructed Special Agent in Charge Cornelius of the Philadelphia Office to cease interviews with Thomas L. Black immediately. Mr. Cornelius was advised that interviews should not be resumed with Black until Bureau clearance was obtained. Mr. Cornelius was instructed to have a physical surveillance conducted of Black as soon as he leaves the Philadelphia Office. *Pratt*

I suggested to Mr. Cornelius that when the interview is terminated that Black should be made to understand that we know he is not telling the truth, that he may desire to think the matter over and consult with us later. Mr. Cornelius advised that the interview would be terminated at once and Black would be out of the office within fifteen minutes, that undoubtedly Black will go to New Jersey over the weekend and a physical surveillance will be instituted at once.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 PHILADELPHIA 1 FROM NEWARK 17

DIRECTOR FBI AND SACS NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA URGENT
THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE BALTO TEL JUNE SIXTEEN. NEWARK INDICES
REFLECT A W. M. STAPLER, CHEMIST AT HERCULES POWDER CO., AS BEING THE
FATHER OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS OBSERVED TAKING UNAUTHORIZED PHOTOGRAPHS
OF WIRING AND SIGNALS OF ~~THE~~ ERIE RAILROAD IN DECEMBER FORTY SIX.
ABOVE COMPLAINT ONLY INFO IN ~~NEWARK~~ NEWARK FILES POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH
WILLIAM W. STAPLER MENTIONED IN RETEL.

MC KEE

CONF PLS

NKAV NK R 1 WA HSU

NK R 1 PH LPM

NY NK R 1 NYG JEN
52 JUL 27 1950

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101 - CHECKED

Mr. Lamphere
65-59181-118

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JUN 17 1960

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Mr. Ladd	/
Mr. Clegg	/
Mr. Glavin	/
Mr. Nichols	/
Mr. Rosen	/
Mr. Tracy	/
Mr. Harbo	/
Mr. Belmont	/
Mr. Mohr	/
Tele. Room	/
Mr. Nease	/
Miss Gandy	/

WASHINGTON 2 NEW YORK 1 NEWARK 1 BALTIMORE 1 FROM PHILADELPHIA
2
B AM U R G E N T

DIRECTOR AND SACS....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. BLACK-S RESIDENCE AT MAJESTIC HOTEL IN PHILA SEPT. FORTYEIGHT VERIFIED. INTERVIEW WITH BLACK CONTINUED THIS DATE. BLACK SPENT NIGHT IN COMPANY OF AGENTS AT THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOTEL. ATE BREAKFAST WITH AGENTS IN ROOM. BLACK AMPLIFIED PREVIOUS INFO AND ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO SECURE MORE SPECIFIC INFO AND EVIDENCE OF ESPIONAGE VIOLATION, WITHOUT SUCCESS. BLACK STATED THAT HE WAS APPROACHED IN THIRTYFIVE TO GO TO CALIFORNIA TECH AND STUDY FOR A DOCTOR-S DEGREE. HIS EXPENSES WERE TO BE PAID BY THE SOVIETS. BLACK CLAIMS THAT HE TURNED DOWN THIS OFFER BECAUSE HE DESIRED TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS THEN. HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY HARRY GOLD THAT GOLD-S EXPENSES WERE PAID BY THE SOVIETS FOR HIS ATTENDANCE AT XAVIER UNIVERSITY. HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS DID NOT PAY GOLD FULL AMOUNT EXPECTED. GOLD HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GO TO SCHOOL IN CINCINNATI, OHIO, SO THAT HE COULD CONTACT AN INDIVIDUAL THAT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED BY THE SOVIETS. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS DESCRIBED AS BEING AN MIT GRADUATE, WHO, WHILE THERE, HAD TUTORED A SOVIET NATIONAL AND WAS SUPPOSED TO FURNISH INFO TO AN AMERICAN CONTACT. THIS UNDOUBTEDLY REFERS TO BEN SMILG. BLACK ADVISED THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS ATTENDING CALIF. TECH WOULD BE TO HANDLE

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PAGE TWO

THIRTYFIVE BY PETERSEN A CONTAX CAMERA. BLACK ALREADY KNEW HOW TO OPERATE THIS CAMERA FOR DOCUMENT WORK. THE CAMERA WAS GIVEN TO HIM SO THAT HE COULD PHOTO COPY INFO THAT HE WAS TO GET FROM HIS CONTACTS. HE WAS LATER INSTRUCTED TO USE IT TO GET PICTURES OF TROTSKYITES. IN FORTYTWO HIS SOVIET CONTACT, JACK, TOOK CAMERA BACK FOR TWO MONTHS AND LATER RETURNED IT TO HIM. IN FORTYFIVE HE USED THIS CAMERA TO PHOTO COPY THREE BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON PENICILLIN. THE PRESENT CAMERA IS A MODEL TWO WHICH BLACK SECURED IN AN EXCHANGE FOR THE MODEL NUMBER THREE CAMERA ORIGINALLY GIVEN TO HIM BY PETERSEN. BLACK HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN CERTAIN LABORATORY EQUIPMENT AND BOOKS BY THE SOVIETS AS REWARD FOR WORK TO BE DONE BY HIM. BLACK STILL MAINTAINS THAT HE DID NOT ACT AS A COURIER FOR THE SOVIETS EXCEPT IN TWO INSTANCES, ONE HIS VISIT TO DR. FLOWSDORFF IN PHILA, AT WHICH TIME BLACK USED THE NAME OF GEORGE WILLIAMS. NOTHING WAS SECURED FROM FLOWSDORFF. IN FORTYFIVE HE HAD DEALINGS WITH INDIVIDUAL FROM HERCULES IN WILMINGTON, WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS WILLIAM STAPLER. IN FORTYFIVE JACK INTRODUCED BLACK TO WILLIAM STAPLER IN NEW YORK CITY. BLACK WAS INSTRUCTED TO MEET STAPLER AT THE PENNA STATION IN NEWARK, NJ. BLACK WAS USING THE NAME OF BOB UNQUOTE. BLACK STATES THAT STAPLER-S WIFE KNEW THAT STAPLER WAS INVOLVED IN FURNISHING INFO TO SOVIETS, AND CONTACT WAS HAD WITH STAPLER THRU HIS WIFE. IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR BLACK TO CALL STAPLER-S WIFE DURING THE WEEK AND SHE WOULD ARRANGE A MEETING WITH

END PAGE TWO

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PAGE THREE

STAPLER AND BLACK AT THE PENNA RR STATION IN NEWARK, NJ. BLACK MAINTAINS STAPLER NEVER FURNISHED INFO TO HIM FOR TRANSMISSION TO SOVIETS. STAPLER FURNISHED TO BLACK FOR HIS PERSONAL USE SAMPLE OF PURE ROSIN AND LITERATURE PUT OUT BY HERCULES. BLACK IDENTIFIED PHOTO OF WILLIAM STAPLER FURNISHED BY BALTIMORE FROM HERCULES RECORDS AS BEING INDIVIDUAL WHOM HE WOULD MEET WITH IN PENN STATION, NEWARK, NJ. BLACK ADMITS MEETING STAPLER ON THREE OCCASIONS. BLACK ADMITS IN THIRTYFOUR FURNISHING DETAILS OF PROCESSES EMPLOYED BY NOPCO TO HIS SOVIET SUPERIOR. THESE PROCESSES DEALT WITH THE SULFANATION OF OLS, TEXTILE SPECIALTIES, AND LEATHER OILS. BLACK FURNISHED ALL MATERIAL FROM NOPCO THAT WAS AVAILABLE TO HIM. BLACK ADVISED IN THIRTYFOUR HARRY GOLD BROUGHT INDIVIDUAL NAMED JOSEPH BRODSKY TO HIS APARTMENT IN NEWARK AND INTRODUCED HIM TO BLACK AS AN INDIVIDUAL THAT GOLD WAS RECRUITING INTO SOVIET ESPIONAGE. BLACK SUBMITTED REPORT ON BRODSKY TO HIS SUPERIORS NOT RECOMMENDING BRODSKY. BRODSKY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING IDENTICAL WITH JACK BRUIN, SUBJECT OF SECURITY INVESTIGATION, PHILA. OFFICE. BLACK IDENTIFIED PHOTO OF BRUIN AS BRODSKY. BLACK STATED THAT IN THIRTYFIVE PETERSEN, HIS SOVIET AGENT, OFFERED TO SET HIM UP IN A COVER BUSINESS AND TOLD BLACK IT DID NOT MATTER IF HE MADE ANY MONEY OR NOT. JACK, ANOTHER SOVIET SUPERIOR, OFFERED TO BUY BLACK A CAR. IN THIRTYFIVE AND THIRTYSIX BLACK PRESSURED BY PETERSEN, HIS SOVIET SUPERIOR, TO MAKE CONTACTS AND SECURE INFO REGARDING OTHER INDUSTRIAL PLANTS. BLACK MAINTAINS

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HE DID NOT PERFORM SUCH WORK AND WAS THEN REQUESTED BY PETERSEN TO APPLY FOR WORK AT VARIOUS CHEMICAL PLANTS. BLACK ADMITTED RECRUITING HARRY GOLD IN SOVIET ESPIONAGE, AND ADMITTED INTRODUCING GOLD TO PAUL PETERSEN IN NEW YORK CITY. BLACK ADMITTED THAT IN FORTYFIVE HE FURNISHED SOVIETS A SAMPLE OF SORBITAL, WHICH IS THE BASE FOR ASCORBIC ACID PARENTHESIS VITAMIN C END PARENTHESIS. IN ADDITION TO THIS SAMPLE HE FURNISHED THEM HIS PROCESS, WHICH HE HAD DEVELOPED IN THEORY. THE SAMPLE WAS A CULTURE PURCHASED FROM THE AMERICAN TYPE CULTURE COLLECTION, WASH., D. C. BLACK ADMITTED TRAVELLING IN THIRTY NINE TO NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE ON BEHALF OF NOPCO TO VISIT A RAYON COMPANY THERE. CLAIMS WENT ON NOPCO BUSINESS. A MR. ROBINSON, OF NOPCO CO. CAN VERIFY PURPOSE OF TRIP AS BEING ON COMPANY BUSINESS. THEN WENT TO WASH., D. C. TO CONFER WITH A DR. CHARLES SANDO REGARDING EMBEDDING OF PLANTS IN PLEXIGLASS BUT GOT NO INFO FROM SANDO.

BLACK HAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED HIS RUSSIAN CONTACT JACK FROM PHOTO AS BEING JOSEPH KATZ, ON WHOM BUREAU HAS INFO OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE. BLACK MAINTAINED THAT HE LAST SAW KATZ IN MAY OR JUNE OF FORTYEIGHT IN FRONT OF MACY-S IN NYC, WHERE THEY MET IN RESPONSE TO A PRIOR TELEPHONE CALL. BLACK ADVISES THAT HIS ENTIRE STORY OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE UP UNTIL FORTYFOUR CAN BE VERIFIED BY VERA KANE, NYC, SINCE IT WAS AT HER APARTMENT THAT HE AND HELLER DECIDED TO GO TO AMTORG. KANE TYPED UP BLACK-S NOPCO REPORTS FOR AMTORG. BLACK ALSO DISCUSSED WITH KANE THE REQUEST OF SCHWARTZ THAT BLACK GO TO MEXICO CITY TO JOIN TROTSKY-S HOUSEHOLD. BLACK CLAIMS THAT KANE CAN VERIFY HIS RELUCTANCE TO DEAL WITH SOVIET AGENTS EXCEPT ON A LEGAL, CONSULTING BASES UP TO FORTYFOUR. END PAGE FOUR

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PAGE FIVE

-BALTIMORE ADVISED THAT WILLIAM W. STAPLER, A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF HERCULES
-AT WILMINGTON, DEL. IS NOW DECEASED. STAPLER-S WIFE, ETHEL MAY ~~STAPLER~~,
LAST KNOWN TO RESIDE RIVERDALE, MORRIS CO., N. J. NEWARK OFFICE SHOULD
CONTACT ETHEL MAY STAPLER FOR ALL INFO SHE MAY HAVE REGARDING SUBJECT
AND HER HUSBAND-S ACTIVITIES. ALSO VOLUNTARY SEARCH OF LATE HUSBAND-S
EFFECTS DESIRED. SHE IS REPORTED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF HER HUSBAND-S
COMPLICITY IN RUSSIAN ESPIONAGE. ALSO INTERVIEW ROBINSON OF NOPCO
TO VERIFY SUBJECT-S STORY. NEW YORK OFFICE SHOULD INTERVIEW VERA KANE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRIOR TELEPHONE CALLS. BALTIMORE OFFICE SHOULD
ASCERTAIN NATURE OF INFO AVAILABLE TO WILLIAM STAPLER AT HERCULES,
WILMINGTON, DEL. INTERVIEW WITH BLACK TERMINATED AT SEVEN PM TODAY.
BLACK TAKEN TO HIS HOME BY AGENTS. SURVEILLANCE ON BLACK CON-
TINUING. BLACK REPORTED THAT HE WILL PROBABLY LEAVE PHILA. TO-
NIGHT FOR PATERSON, N. J., WHERE HE ANTICIPATES SPENDING THE
WEEKEND, RETURNING TO PHILA. LATE SUNDAY NIGHT.

CORNELIUS

CORRECTIONS PAGE ONE LINE TWO WD ONE IS HOTEL

PAGE THREE LINE TEN WD FIVE OILS

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS

WASH PH R -2 WA LRP

NEW YORK PH R 1 NYC JD

NEWARK PH R 1 NK FCW

BALTIMORE PH R 1 BA RHS

BLL DISC

cc Mr Belmont
Mr Lamphre

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1960

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

CONF THREE STATIONS

WASHINGTON 3 PHILADELPHIA 2 NEWARK 2 FROM NEW YORK ~~RECEIVED~~ 17 2 45AM

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R. RENVTEL EARLY JUNE SIXTEEN. NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR WAS RECONTACTED TODAY AND INTERROGATED TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT HIS FIRM PERFORMED ANY RESTRICTED OR CONFIDENTIAL WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT. HE ADVISED THAT HIS COMPANY PERFORMED CONSIDERABLE WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND NEVER HAD ANY RESTRICTED WORK. HOWEVER, TOWARDS THE END OF THE WAR, THE NAVY DEPARTMENT REQUESTED HIM TO MAKE FIFTY POUNDS OF SOME MATERIAL WHICH WAS TO BE USED IN SUBMARINES FOR USE AS AN ADDITIVE TO FUEL IN ORDER TO SUPPLY OXYGEN TO THE FUEL SO THAT IT WOULD COMBUST UNDER WATER. THIS WORK WAS CLASSIFIED AS RESTRICTED. THE FIRM ONLY MADE ONE POUND OF THIS MATERIAL AND TESTED IT FOR ITS EXPLOSIVE QUALITIES. BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT, HE DID NOT MAKE ANY MORE OF THE MATERIAL AND HE WAS NOT PAID FOR THIS WORK BY THE NAVY. HE STATED THAT BLACK HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THIS WORK. MOLNAR ALSO VOLUNTEERED THAT SEGESSEMAN HAD ADVISED HIM THIS MORNING THAT HE WAS INTERVIEWED BY AGENTS IN NEW JERSEY CONCERNING BLACK AND THAT SEGESSEMAN COULD NOT RECALL BLACK AS BEING EMPLOYED IN A CONSULTANT CAPACITY BY FINE ORGANICS. MOLNAR STATED SEGESSEMAN HAS A VERY POOR MEMORY AND INASMUCH AS MOLNAR HANDLED THE FINANCIAL END WITH BLACK, IT IS REASONABLE BELIEVE SEGESSEMAN WOULD NOT RECALL SUBJECT-S EMPLOYMENT. IN VIEW

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OF SEGESSEMAN-S ALLEGED LACK OF MEMORY, IT IS BELIEVED DESIRABLE SEGESSEMAN BE REINTERVIEWED CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE RESTRICTED WORK PERFORMED FOR THE NAVY TOWARD THE END OF THE WAR AND WHETHER OR NOT HE SUPPLIED THIS RESTRICTED INFORMATION TO BLACK. BLACK SHOULD ALSO BE QUESTIONED TO DETERMINE IF HE HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THIS RESTRICTED WORK BY FINE ORGANICS, INC. AND WHETHER HE ATTEMPTED TO SECURE OR DID SECURE ANY DATA ON THIS WORK FROM SEGESSEMAN OR MOLNAR IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES.

SCHEIDT

ALL HLD PLS

c. M. Lamphere

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2
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON 4 PHILADELPHIA 3 NEWARK 3 FROM NEW YORK 17

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE PHILADELPHIA TEL JUNE FOUR, NINETEEN FIFTY WHEREIN IT WAS STATED THAT GOLD ADVISED BLACK WAS ATTEMPTING TO GET INFORMATION ON PENICILLIN FOR THE SOVIET UNION IN EARLY NINETEEN FORTY-TWO. GOLD SAID THAT FROM TALKS HE HAD WITH BLACK DURING THE EARLY FORTIES BLACK WAS ENGAGED IN OBTAINING INFO ON BIOLOGICALS FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND IN THAT CONNECTION TOOK TRIPS TO PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE, AND CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, TURNING OVER THE INFORMATION HE RECEIVED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE USSR IN NEW YORK CITY. NEW YORK FILES REFLECT THAT IN MAY, NINETEEN FORTY-ONE, MAURICE BACON COOKE, NINE SIX NINE MAYFAIRWAY, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, STATED THAT GAIK OVAKIMIAN MENTIONED ONE, PODBIELNIAK OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA. OVAKIMIAN TOLD COOKE THAT PODBIELNIAK HAD DEVELOPED A CENTRIFUGAL FRACTIONING SYSTEM ALONG WITH VARIOUS OTHER PROCESSES AND THAT PODBIELNIAK GAVE THE RUSSIANS GOOD INFORMATION. PODBIELNIAK, INCORPORATED IS A COMPANY LOCATED AT THREE FOUR ONE EAST OHIO, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND IS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF EQUIPMENT USED IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY AND IN LABORATORIES WHICH PRODUCED PENICILLIN AND RELATED

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

PRODUCTS. THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COMPANY, WALTER J. ~~PODBIELNIAK~~, CAME FROM TULSA, OKLAHOMA, TO CHICAGO IN NINETEEN TWENTY-EIGHT OR NINETEEN TWENTY-NINE. ~~PODBIELNIAK~~, INCORPORATED, AT THE PRESENT TIME IS A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF HIGH QUALITY EQUIPMENT USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF PENICILLEN AND STREPTOMYCIN. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT IN CONNECTION WITH INTERVIEWING BLACK, THE POSSIBILITY THAT BLACK MAY HAVE CONTACTED ~~PODBIELNIAK~~ OR OVAKIMIAN BE EXPLORED. NEWARK OFFICE IS REQUESTED TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE MAURICE BACON COOKE WHOSE ADDRESS IN NINETEEN FORTY-ONE, AT THE TIME HE VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION TO THE NEW YORK OFFICE, WAS GIVEN AS NINE SIX NINE MAYFAIR WAY, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY. THERE WAS NO RECORD IN THE NEW YORK FILES OF SARA ANN MELLOR. IN INTERVIEW WITH ~~JACOB FASS~~ HE STATED THAT HE AND BLACK FORMERLY LIVED IN THE SAME APARTMENT WITH MRS. ~~SARA HERSHER~~, A COUSIN OF FASS, AT TWO ONE TWO FOUR SPRUCE STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA. FASS UNCERTAIN AS TO THE EXACT DATE BUT IT WAS PROBABLY AROUND NINETEEN FORTY-FIVE OR NINETEEN FORTY-SIX. FASS SAID MRS. HERSHER WAS AT LEAST A COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZER AND WAS ALSO UNDER THE CARE OF A PSYCHIATRIST. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT MRS. ~~HERSHER~~ AND SARA ANN MELLOR ARE IDENTICAL AND CHECKS ISSUED BY BLACK TO MELLOR WERE FOR ROOM RENT.

SCHEIDT

MXXXRXRXRX

ALL HOLD PLS

cc Mr. Sampson

65-59181-121

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1960

TELETYPE

Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

CONF 3 STNS

WASH 3 PHILA. 4 NEWARK 4 FROM NEW YORK 11 3 00AM

DIRECTOR AND SACS DEFERRED

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THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS. ESP-R. VERA KANE INTERVIEWED AT HER PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT, THE LAW OFFICE OF GENERAL ROY P. MONAHAN, SUITE SIXTEEN HUNDRED, THIRTYSEVEN WALL ST., NYC. KANE IS A WOMAN OF SOME FIFTY ODD YEARS OF AGE AND APPEARED VERY ECCENTRIC. SHE SAID SHE MET SUBJECT IN TWENTYEIGHT OR TWENTYNINE THROUGH A MAN NAMED J. BYRON MCKINNEY WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS A LEFTIST LONGSHOREMAN AND SEAMAN. SHE LATER WAS INTRODUCED BY BLACK TO HELLER AT A PARTY IN A HOTEL ON WEST SEVENTYSECOND ST., NYC. SHE SAID HELLER DID NOT LIVE WITH HER AT WEST ELEVENTH ST. BUT SAID THAT DURING A PERIOD OF THE DEPRESSION FROM THIRTYTWO TO THIRTYFIVE SHE HAD AN APARTMENT AT THAT ADDRESS WHICH WAS USED AS SORT OF A CONTINUOUS OPEN HOUSE FOR HER BOHEMIAN FRIENDS. SHE SAID SHE HAD GIVEN OUT ABOUT TWENTYSEVEN KEYS TO THE PLACE AND ALWAYS WELCOMED ANY OF THE GANG THERE FOR A MEAL. MANY OF THESE PEOPLE SHE SAID WERE OUT OF WORK AND HUNGRY. AMONG THE GROUP WAS BLACK, HELLER AND ERNEST SEGESSEMAN. SHE SAW THESE PEOPLE UP UNTIL SOMETIME PRIOR TO THIRTYEIGHT AND THEN WHILE LIVING AT THE HOTEL CARTERET DECIDED TO MOVE AND BREAK OFF HER TIES WITH THAT ERA. SHE NO LONGER SAW BLACK BUT HELLER CALLED HER THROUGH HER OFFICE WHERE SHE HAD BEEN WORKING FOR YEARS. THIS WAS THE LAW OFFICE OF LOUIS DEAN SPEIR IN NYC. SHE DID NOT SEE BLACK FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND BELIEVES IT WAS NOT UNTIL FORTYTWO THAT SHE SAW HIM AND

PAGE TWO

HAS NOT NOW SEEN HIM FOR SEVERAL YEARS AT LEAST. SHE SAID SHE LAST SAW HELLER AT CHRISTMAS TIME IN FORTYEIGHT. HE ASKED HER TO GET HIM A ROOM AT THE SHERMAN SQUARE HOTEL WHERE SHE LIVED AND THEN AFTER HE ARRIVED HE CARRIED ON IN AN OBNOXIOUS MANNER AND ATTEMPTED TO ENTER HER ROOM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. SHE SAID SHE HAS NOT SEEN HIM SINCE BUT HE HAS WRITTEN POSTCARDS AND LETTERS TO HER BOTH FROM PHILA. AND WHILE HE WAS ABROAD BUT SHE SAYS SHE HAS NOT OPENED THE LETTERS. SHE SAID SHE BELIEVES HELLER COULD HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN SOME SORT OF ESPIONAGE BUT NOT BLACK. ALL THROUGH THE INTERVIEW SHE WAS MORE CONCERNED OVER BLACK THAN HELLER. SHE RECALLED THAT HELLER ONCE SAID HE TRIED TO HELP SOLVE A CHEMICAL PROBLEM FOR A MAN HE KNEW WHO WAS IN A GROUP CALLED "FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION". THE PROBLEM CONCERNED DEVELOPMENT OF A COATING FOR METAL TO PREVENT RUST AND THE SOLVENT USED WAS TONGUE OIL. THIS WAS DURING THE PERIOD THIRTYTWO TO THIRTYFIVE. SHE DENIED KNOWING ABOUT ANY DIRECT CONTACT BY BLACK OR HELLER AT AMTORG BUT TOLD A LONG STORY ABOUT BLACK IN NINETEEN THIRTYONE TELLING HER THAT AMTORG WAS USING GOLD BULLION IN BUYING UP PRODUCTS HERE. HE SAID EVERYONE KNEW IT BUT SHE REMEMBERED SEEING A GIRL AT BLACK-S APARTMENT IN NEW JERSEY WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AN AMTORG EMPLOYEE AND THOUGHT BLACK MIGHT HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE GOLD FROM HER. THIS GIRL, NAME UNKNOWN, WAS NOT A RUSSIAN NATIONAL AS FAR AS KANE RECALLED. SHE DESCRIBED HER BRIEFLY AS HAVING A RATHER ROUND FIGURE AND BLOND HAIR. THIS GIRL BELONGED TO A HIKING CLUB ALONG WITH ERNEST SEGESSEMAN. WHEN SPEAKING ABOUT BLACK-S ACTIVITIES SHE WAS OBVIOUSLY ATTEMPTING TO CAST OFF ANY SUSPICION FROM HIM AND DEFENDED

END OF PAGE TWO

65-59181-122

PAGE THREE

HIM AS A PACIFIST AND VERY GOOD PERSON WHO WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING WRONG. SHE SAID BLACK, IN NEWARK, PRIOR TO THIRTYEIGHT, HAD SHARED HIS APARTMENT WITH A YOUNG FELLOW NAMED CHARLES FRIEFIELD /PH/ WHO CAME FROM A LARGE FAMILY IN JERSEY AND WHO HAD NO ROOM TO STAY WITH HIS FAMILY. SHE SAID FRIEFIELD FIRST BROUGHT THE PET CROW TO BLACK-S APARTMENT. FRIEFIELD-S BROTHER ALLEGEDLY TOOK BLACK TO A TROTSKYITE MEETING AND BLACK LATER DESCRIBED THE TROTSKYITES TO HER AS A BUNCH OF NUTS AND THE MOVEMENT AS "ACTIVITY IN A VACUUM". ON AN OCCASION PRIOR TO THIRTYTHREE SHE SAID BLACK TOOK HER TO A CP CAFETERIA ON WEST THIRTEENTH STREET AND A USSR MOVIE ON FOURTEENTH ST., NYC. KANE SAID SHE KEPT A DIARY ON AND OFF THROUGH THE YEARS AND SAYS SHE COULD REFRESH HER RECOLLECTION OF DATES THROUGH IT BUT IS RELUCTANT TO PART WITH IT. SHE CLAIMS TO BE A CARDIAC CASE AND SAID SHE HAD BEEN MARRIED YEARS AGO AND HAD ONE CHILD. SHE SAID SHE SUFFERED FROM NERVOUS DISORDERS IN THE TWENTIES AND TOOK SOME SORT OF VOWS AFTER HER UNSUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE. PART OF THESE VOWS SHE TOOK WERE TO WEAR NO COLORS EXCEPT WHITE AND BLACK AND SHE SAYS SHE STILL ADHERES TO THIS. THE INFORMATION FURNISHED BY BLACK ABOUT VERA KANE-S KNOWLEDGE OF HIS ACTIVITIES WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO INTERVIEWING AGENTS AT TIME OF INTERVIEW.

SCHEIDT

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65-5981 122

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 7 PHILADELPHIA Y 6 FROM NEW YORK 17

3-20A

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. HARRY D. MEISLICH, ATTORNEY, TWO SIX COURT ST., BKLYN, ADVISED HE DID NOT RECALL BLACK OR FINE ORGANICS, INC. MEISLICH WAS LISTED IN THE ORIGINAL INCORPORATION CERTIFICATE IN NINETEEN THIRTY NINE AS A DIRECTOR OF FINE ORGANICS, INC. MEISLICH STATED THAT ALL THE DIRECTORS SO LISTED WERE "DUMMY DIRECTORS" AND ALL WERE EMPLOYED BY LAW FIRM OF GROBERG AND GROBERG, ONE EIGHT EIGHT MONTAGUE ST., BKLYN, AT THE TIME THE CERTIFICATE WAS FILED BY GROBERG AND GROBERG. ABOVE DESCRIBED "DUMMY DIRECTORS" INCLUDED MEISLICH, THEODORE NESS, HENRIETTA WALDMAN AND RUTH LEBOS AND THEREFORE THE LATTER THREE WERE NOT CONTACTED. NICHOLAS M. MOLNAR ADVISED THAT EDNA SINGER WAS A BOOK-KEEPER AT FO, INC. OVER FIVE YEARS AGO AND PROBABLY KNEW LITTLE ABOUT BLACK, AS SHE WORKED IN THE NY OFFICE WHILE BLACK DID MOST OF HIS WORK IN THE LAB IN NJ. THEREFORE NO FURTHER ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW EDNA SINGER. MARVIN HENSCHEL PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AS A BUYER FOR SAKS FIFTH AVENUE AT RECOMMENDED \$101 DOLLARS PER WEEK. HENSCHEL DESCRIBED IN FILES AT SAKS AS BORN NOVEMBER TWENTY SEVEN, NINETEEN TWENTY THREE AT NYC, HEIGHT FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, WEIGHT ONE HUNDRED

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

SEVENTY FIVE LBS, DARK BROWN WAVY HAIR, BROWN EYES. HENSCHEL GRADUATED EAST ORANGE NJ HS IN NINETEEN FORTY ONE, ATTENDED FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY ONE-MARCH NINETEEN FORTY THREE AND MARCH NINETEEN FORTY SIX-AUGUST NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN, OBTAINED BS IN ECONOMICS. HIS PAST RESIDENCES INCLUDED SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST, NEWARK, NJ AND ONE ONE ONE SOUTH HARRISON ST, EAST ORANGE, NJ. HIS PRESENT ADDRESS IS SIX ONE ONE WEST ONE FORTY EIGHTH ST, NYC, APT TWO TWO. HENSCHEL SERVED IN USAAF SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY TWO TO JANUARY NINETEEN FORTY SIX. HIS ONLY PAST EMPLOYMENT LISTED WAS THAT OF NY SALES REPRESENTATIVE OF HARRISON ART ADVERTISING, SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY SEVEN-SEPTEMBER NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT. SELECTIVE SERVICE FILE ON JACOB L FASS REFLECTS HE WAS DEFERRED DUE TO HIS WORK AT NOPCO FROM MARCH NINETEEN FORTY TWO TO MARCH NINETEEN FORTY FOUR. AT THAT TIME HE LEFT NOPCO AND ADVISED LB HE WAS WORKING WITH SUBJECT IN THEIR OWN LAB LOCATED AT SEVENTEEN OXFORD ST., NEWARK, NJ, WHICH, IT IS NOTED, WAS THE HOME ADDRESS OF BLACK AT THAT TIME. FASS WAS SENT FOR INDUCTI IN MAY NINETEEN FORTY FOUR BUT REJECTED FOR PSYCHONEUROSIS AND HOMOSEXUALITY. THEREAFTER HE WAS CLASSIFIED FOUR F. INTERVIEW WITH ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY NEGATIVE ABOUT MEET BLACK STATED HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO MAKE ON LEXINGTON AVE, NYC, IN APPROXIMATELY NINETEEN THIRTY NINE. BOTH HLD PLS

SCHEIDT

65-59181-123

cc Mr. Tangle

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI, ATLANTA

6-17-50

12-35PM

U GR

DIRECTOR, SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK AND NEWARK

.....U R G E N T.....

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS. TASSO LESSING BLACK, LESSING BLACK, DOC.
ESPIONAGE DASH R. RE NEWARK TEL SIX SIXTEEN LAST REQUESTING ATLANTA
TO INTERVIEW THOMAS FUESS, REPORTEDLY EMPLOYED BY JOHNS MANVILLE,
ATLANTA. OFFICE MANAGER JOHNS MANVILLE, ATLANTA ADVISES FUESS
PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AS SPECIALTY SALESMAN FOR JOHNS MANVILLE,
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. MIAMI HAS BEEN FURNISHED INFO RE TEL AND REQUESTED
TO HANDLE. RUC.

BILLS

END

ACK IN ORDER PLS WA

1-37 PM OK FBI WASH DC ELR

PH OK FBI PH 07 OK FBI PH AAB

NY PLS ACK NY OK FBI NYC EFS

NK OK D FBI NK MLG

DISC ALL STATMVMVL

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JUN 17 1960

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

FBI, ALBANY 6-17-60 1-21 PM EDST
DIRECTOR AND SAC-S WFO, NEWARK, NY, PHILADELPHIA

U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESP-R. RE NEWARK TEL JUNE SIXTEEN. PAUL A. DITTMAN, SIXTYTHREE MAIN ST. GARFIELD, NJ NOW VACATIONING CARE OF SALLS, PORTER-S PT., RFD WINOOSKI, VT STATES HE IS ENGINEER AND CHEMIST ENGAGED THROUGHOUT NJ AS CONSULTANT ON WATER TREATMENT PROBLEMS. JOHN SCHMITZ POMPTON PLAINS, NJ IS ONLY SALESMAN AND EMPLOYEE. HAS NO OFFICE OTHER THAN HIS HOME. MAIL PRESENTLY BEING FORWARDED BY SCHMITZ FROM SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO., ONE SEVENTYSEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVE., PATTERSON, N. J. THIS CO. OWNED BY JACK FASS WHO LIVES WITH PARENTS IN BROOKLYN, NY, AND BLACK. FASS WORKS AT CO. FULL TIME. BLACK BELIEVED TO BE A FULL PARTNER WITH FASS BUT VISITS CO. WEEKLY OR BI-WEEKLY ON DAY OFF FROM WORK AT PHILADELPHIA LABORATORY. DITTMAN MET FASS AND BLACK ABOUT TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO THROUGH ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, LODI, NJ, A CUSTOMER OF DITTMAN FOR OVER FIVE YEARS, HE RECOMMENDED FASS AND BLACK AS DEPENDABLE CHEMISTS WITH WHOM HE HAD WORKED AT ONE TIME AND WHO WERE STARTING A CHEMICAL CO.

DITTMAN HAD HAD DIFFICULTY IN GETTING FORMULAS MADE UP FOR HIS CUSTOMERS

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CORRECTIONS LINE 5, WORD 1, POMPTON -- LINE 7, LAST WORD IS

PATTERSON, NJ -- LINE 12, WORD 5, SEGESSEMAN

END PAGE ONE

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HE PLACED ORDERS WITH FASS AND BLACK, DBA SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. AT THIRTY-THREE FIFTYSEVEN MILLER ST., PHILADELPHIA. SERVICE AND QUALITY WERE GOOD. HE HAS GIVEN SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. ALL HIS WORK SINCE. HE KNEW GOTTFRIED ZIEGLER, PATTERSON, NJ, WISHED TO IMPROVE A PROPERTY SO ARRANGED A MEETING BETWEEN ZIEGLER AND FASS AND BLACK. AS RESULT, ZIEGLER LEASED BUILDING AT ONE SEVENTYSEVEN RAILWAY AVE. TO FASS AND BLACK ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO. DITTMAN EXPECTS TO HAVE AN OFFICE AND LABORATORY AT THIS ADDRESS AND BUILDING AT SOME FUTURE DATE. HE CLAIMS HE HAS NEVER VISITED BLACK-S HOME OR SOCIALLY CONTACTED BLACK FOR OTHER THAN TWO OR THREE LUNCHES ON BUSINESS BASIS. DITTMAN CLAIMS TO KNOW NOTHING OF BLACK OTHER THAN SEGESS-EMAN-S RECOMMENDATION. OF BLACK-S CONTACTS DITTMAN KNOWS ONLY ABOVE PERSONS. DOES NOT KNOW HIS FAMILY OR ANY BACKGROUND. HAS CONTACTED FASS MORE THAN BLACK AS LATTER VISITS SPRUCE CHEMICAL CO. ONLY OCCASIONALLY WHILE FASS IS THERE CONTINUOUSLY AS THE ONLY EMPLOYEE. DITTMAN CLAIMS ABSOLUTE TRUST AND INTEGRITY BLACK AND FASS, POINTING OUT HE TRUSTS WITH CONFIDENTIAL SALES DATA AND FORMULAS. HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT LOYALTY OF BLACK OR FASS.

WALL

CORRECTION LINE TWO PAGE TWO NAME OS STREET IN PH IS MILLER ST

END

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA 1-29 PM OK FBI WASH DC ELR

NK

N OK FBI NK MLG

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PH OK FBI PH AAB

NY PLS ACK NY

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TELETYPE

FBI, MIAMI 6-17-50 4-48 PM EST EGH

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS, WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK AND NEWARK URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS. ESPIONAGE DASH R. RE NEWARK TEL TO ATLANTA JUNE SIXTEEN LAST. RE ATLANTA TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN INSTANT. THOMAS A. FEUSS, ONE THREE NINE THREE MURRAY DRIVE, JACKSONVILLE, FLA. ENGINEER IN CHARGE OF SOUTHEASTERN AREA FOR JOHNS MANSVILLE COMPANY ADVISED THAT FROM SEPTEMBER, NINETEEN TWENTYEIGHT TO SEPTEMBER, NINETEEN THIRTY HE WAS EMPLOYED AS CONTROL CHEMIST BY AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY LINDEN, N.J. AND MET BLACK WHOM HE KNEW AS TASSO BLACK WHO CAME TO WORK FOR SAME COMPANY AS CONTROL CHEMIST IN NINETEEN TWENTYNINE. FEUSS RECALLS BLACK WAS GRADUATE OF EITHER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OR PENN STATE U. WHERE HIS FATHER WAS PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH OR LATIN. FEUSS KNEW BLACK FAIRLY INTIMATELY DURING THE SEVERAL MONTHS BLACK WAS EMPLOYED BY THE COMPANY, BLACK BEING LET OUT SHORTLY PRIOR TO NINETEEN THIRTY. DURING FEUSS EMPLOYMENT AT PLANT OTHER CHEMISTS THERE WERE VERY INTERESTED IN AN INDEPENDENT RELIGIOUS GROUP CALLED QUOTE PLYMOUTH BRETHREN QUOTE AND TASSO BLACK WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE QUOTE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ATHEISM QUOTE GOT INTO MANY FRIENDLY ARGUMENTS WITH THE GROUP ON THIS SUBJECT. FEUSS STATES
END PAGE ONE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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5-EL

PAGE TWO

HE UNDERSTOOD BLACK-S FATHER TO BE VERY RELIGIOUS AND APPARENTLY
FORCED HIS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS ON TASSO WHO REVOLTED

FEUSS

BELIEVES BLACK-S ATHEISM WAS DUE TO A RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHY AND
NOT FROM ANY POLITICAL OR IDEOLOGICAL BELIEFS. FEUSS RECALLS NO
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OR HEARD DIRECTLY FROM BLACK SINCE NINETEEN THIRTY. FEUSS SUGGESTS
THAT GILFORD CHRISTIANSEN BELIEVED STILL TO BE EMPLOYED BY AMERICAN
CYANAMID COMPANY AND WHO RESIDES AT WOODBRIDGE, N.J., ALSO KNEW
/ BLACK AT THAT TIME AND THAT GERRY PAREN PHONETIC PAREN MARDINE
FORMER EMPLOYEE OF AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY AND LAST BELIEVED
EMPLOYED BY IMPERIAL OR NATIONAL COLOR AND PIGMENT COMPANY NEAR
NEWARK, N.J., WAS ALSO FRIENDLY WITH BLACK AT THAT TIME. RUC.

C A R S O N

END

CORRECTIONS PAGE ONE FIRST WORD LINES FOUR AND SIX SHOULD

BE THOMAS

5-56 PM OK FBI WA SMS

OK FBI NYC JEM

OK FBI NK MLC

OK FBI PH MTP

THNX DISCM

cc: Mr. Belmont
Mr. Ladd

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI, MIAMI

6-17-50

4-48 PM EST

EGM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS, WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK AND NEWARK

U R G E N T

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END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

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C A R S O N

END

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BE THOMAS

5-56 PM OK FBI WA SMS

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OK FBI NK MLC

OK FBI PH MTP

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THNX DISCMM

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